

Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

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INSIDE

NATION

Birth rate decline

2011 marked the fourth year for a drop in U.S. births, which several experts tie to the weak economy.

U.S. births

Change in U.S. birth rates for women of all ages, 2010-2011

Category	Change
All races	-1.15
Hispanic	-1.48
Black	-1.14
White	-0.53
Native	-0.48

U.S. births fall for the fourth year, the weak economy dampening enthusiasm for having kids.

▶ PAGE 13

FOCUS



Islamists are seeking to enshrine theocratic rule in Egypt's long-awaited new constitution.

▶ PAGE 15

LIFE & STYLE



New Zealand authorities bar Mike Tyson from entering the country.

▶ PAGE 18

Rape suspect argues that search on his car unlawful. **PAGE 2**
Judge nixes rob suspect's bid for a lower bail. **PAGE 3**

DESPITE MAJOR CONCERNS, LAWSUIT, IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS

'Still no full economic analysis on \$190-million power accord'



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Despite multiple calls for an investigation since August, a lawsuit and an impeachment proceeding arising from a no-bid, \$190.8-million power purchase agreement, the Fitial administration has still not conducted a full economic analysis on the 25-year deal to help determine whether it is in the best interest of the CNMI and its utility customers.

Earlier statements from the administration suggested ongoing full economic

analysis, but this is not really the case, to the surprise of members of the Special

» **CUC officials to Impeachment Panel: PPA not to customers' best interests**

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. acting executive director Alan Fletcher, center, is sworn in prior to giving testimony before the Special Committee on Impeachment, while CUC legal counsels Deborah Fisher, left, and Rebecca Wrightson, right, look on yesterday afternoon on Capital Hill.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

cial Committee on Impeachment yesterday.

This and other details about the \$190.8-million power deal came to light during yesterday's continuation of impeachment hearings related to a resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno

See ANALYSIS on Page 4

'Lack of educated workers not a good base to build NMI'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Using the islands' historical data, a visiting education expert said the Commonwealth's lack of a well-educated workforce is not a strong base in which to build the future of the CNMI on.

Dennis Jones, from the National Center of Higher Education Management System, believes that the islands' situation will worsen in the years ahead unless action is taken now to accelerate the production of well-educated workers.

"You have a U.S. citizen population that is not well-educated, not quite U.S. standards, and certainly not by global standards. The CNMI, based on data, is below every state and not competitive even against places like Japan. This [record] is

See LACK on Page 4

OPA request to boost govt accountability ignored

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Public Auditor Michael Pai's recommendations to the conference committee on the fiscal year 2013 budget bill—specifically to strengthen government accountability by recognizing the public auditor's required independence—fell on deaf ears.

"Inadequate independence of the government auditing authority may unnecessarily jeopardize access to federal and private grant funding," Pai said in a letter to House Ways and Means Committee chair Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) and Senate

See OPA on Page 4



Pai

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Local

Rape suspect argues that search on his car was unlawful

Michael Anthony Jackson, a 39-year-old ex-convict facing charges of kidnapping and

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Ada Gym burglary

Crime Stoppers is seeking the community's assistance for information on a burglary incident that occurred at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in Oleai.

Last Friday, Sept. 28, at about 7am, employees at the gym discovered the storage room was left slightly open. The room was secured the day before, at the end of the work day. Two bundles of electrical wires valued at over \$600 were stolen. There were no signs of forced entry.

The wires were supposed to be installed on the pre-paid meters for the basketball courts in the villages of Tanapag, San Roque, As Matuis, and Capital Hill.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Please contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net. Crime stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. (NMI Crime Stoppers)

raping a minor, claims that the police's search on his car was unlawful and that the Superior Court should suppress all evidence obtained from the vehicle.

In opposing the motion, the Office of the Attorney General argued that the search complied with the first three requirements of the law.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho placed the matter under advisement.

Assistant public defender Daniel T. Guidotti, counsel for Jackson, asserted that the search on the suspect's silver 1997 Honda Civic violated his constitutional right to be free from unlawful searches and seizures under the U.S. and CNMI constitutions.

CHC CT scanner, backup x-ray unit now fully functional

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center got back last week the backup portable x-ray unit it loaned to the Tinian Health Center, according to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta.

Babauta said that radiology manager Dan Harding told him that the portable unit was re-

stitutions.

"This search warrant is simply defective, entirely defective," Guidotti said.

He said police officers were hunting for evidence of drug use and that was beyond the scope of the search warrant.

Guidotti asserted that the Oct. 13, 2012, search warrant is constitutionally defective because it fails to state the things to be seized.

He said the searchers seized a number of Jackson's personal effects and removed entire parts of the vehicle, including the front passenger seat, the passenger door visor, most of the passenger door, and a piece of carpet from the passenger side of the vehicle.

turned in good condition and is now being tested.

Babauta said the corporation also repaired the image transfer function of its CT scanner and that it is now fully functional.

According to Babauta, the CT scanner was working but there were some inaccurate reporting when it automatically transmits images to Guam for interpretation. This, he said, has been successfully repaired.

Guidotti said the CNMI Constitution provides that "no warrants shall be issued except upon probable cause supported by oath or affirmation and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized."

He said in circumscribing the particularity requirement, the U.S. Supreme Court requires that a description of the things to be seized in a search warrant leave "nothing...to the discretion of the officer executing the warrant."

In the government's opposition, assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll said the warrant was based on probable cause, supported by a sworn affidavit, and described the place to be

search with particularity.

Driscoll said the search was not general rummaging but one targeted to obtain evidence of the specific crimes.

Driscoll said police detective Melisa Bauleong did not merely rely on her own notions of what was necessary for a warrant, but

See RAPE on Page 4

DPS looking for two suspects

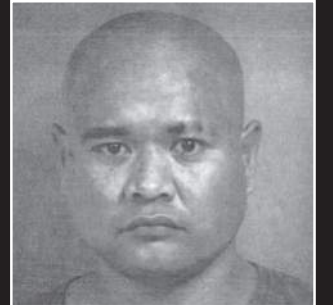
The Department of Public Safety is seeking the public's assistance in locating two local men.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has issued arrest warrants on both men for the charges of theft. Several attempts have been made to locate and apprehend both men. Family members and friends have been contacted and the two suspects are still at large.



Suspect No. 1: Mario O. Sablan, age 36, resides in Lower Miha or Gualo Rai

Description: 5'6" tall, 155 lbs, brown eyes, black curly short hair, sporting a goatee.



Suspect No. 2: Primo Ogarto, age 31, resides in Tanapag.

Description: 5'5", 155 lbs, brown eyes, black short straight hair, sporting goatee.

If spotted call 911. Do not attempt to apprehend the wanted men. Should you want to remain anonymous, contact the Crime Stoppers Hotline at 234-7272 or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net. Crime Stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. (DPS)

See CHC on Page 4

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Judge nixes rob suspect's bid for a lower bail amount

McDonald's launches the Arch reloadable card, offers promos



CLARISSA V. DAVID

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu shows the three available designs for the recently introduced Arch Card, in an interview at their Middle Road branch on Sept. 27.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

McDonald's Saipan recently introduced its Arch Card, the new and easy way to buy any of the store's menu items for customers who prefer a cashless payment option.

Arch cards, which replace the outdated gift certificates, are available in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$25, and \$50, are reloadable and do not expire, and come in three colorful designs, said general manager Marcia Ayuyu.

She said customers can just swipe their Arch Card on the machine when they place their food order at any of the two McDonald's Saipan locations.

The card can also be used for drive-thru transactions, and that patrons can check their card balances.

The world's largest hamburger chain formally launched the Arch Card in the U.S. mainland in 2005 and customers have since embraced the convenience the reloadable card brings.

Ayuyu said that the Arch Card makes a great gift for the holiday season and other occasions. Additionally, it can be used in McDonald's outlets in other states and territories.

She emphasized, however, that Arch Card holders must take care of their cards since these do not have any security features and can be used by anyone who get a hold of the cards.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has refused to change the bail of a male teenager who, along with a juvenile, allegedly beat up and robbed a woman inside her home in Chalan Kanoa.

In an order issued Tuesday, Camacho said that given the egregiousness of the alleged crimes and the strength of the government's case, posting a \$2,000 bail and the assignment of an unsuitable custodian would not ensure Joshua Limes' presence in court.

The 19-year-old Limes had wanted to be released to his mother as his third party custodian. He also asked the judge to

lower his bail to \$20,000 and allow him to post just 10 percent of the amount.

The judge found the mother to be unsuitable as a custodian, in part because she was living with the suspect at the time of the alleged crimes and that she appears to have little control over him—mainly based on the mother's own testimony.

Camacho also found the family home to be an unsuitable location for release due to its nearness to the alleged victim.

Camacho said he cannot say that the mother could reasonably assure the defendant's presence in court.

"Thus, the court rejects the proposed modification without prejudice to the defendant to

propose more suitable release terms," the judge said.

At a preliminary hearing last week, the court found probable cause to hold Limes on charges of robbery, assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and conspiracy to commit robbery. The court set his bail at \$31,250 cash.

Assistant attorney general Chemere K. McField had opposed lowering Limes' bail from \$31,250 to \$2,000, saying that Limes had planned the crime with his co-defendant.

The victim was walking home from work on May 28 when Limes approached her from behind, wrapped his arms around her neck, and choked her until she fell unconscious, McField said.

"After executing a robbery, defendant proceeded to punch the unconscious victim in the head several times, as her body lay motionless on the ground," the prosecutor said.

The weight of evidence stands against Limes, McField said, as his co-defendant has already confessed to all facts relating to the crime.

The co-defendant allegedly confessed that they split the money taken from the victim and that he got his share of \$3,000.

Police said the victim, a Chinese woman, had some red marks on her neck and face, and her pants were dirty on the knee portion when a police officer responded to the scene.

Promotions

Ayuyu said McDonald's Saipan also offers a number of promotions but only for a limited time.

Customers who purchase a Big Mac meal will receive a \$1-off coupon for use at all participating Saipan Mobil gas stations. The coupon requires a minimum of \$15 gas or diesel purchase.

Mobil customers who fill up \$25 worth of fuel in a single transaction will receive a McDonald's 6-piece Chicken McNuggets voucher.

McDonald's Saipan has also brought back the Monopoly game, which is now on its 20th edition and will run until Oct. 22.

The game can be played in multiple ways for a chance to win your favorite menu items and other prizes. Players can win instantly by peeling game pieces from select menu items or they can collect property sets available in game pieces for a chance to win up to \$1 million in cash or one of 20 2013 Fiat 500 Sport Hatchback.

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Former CHC staff, wife plead not guilty to 59 charges

A former employee of the Commonwealth Health Center and his wife entered a not guilty plea yesterday in

Maliksi moves away; new disturbance forms

Tropical Storm Maliksi 20(W) moved away from the CNMI yesterday, but a new tropical disturbance was seen forming southeast of the Mariana Islands.

According to the U.S. National Weather Service in Guam, a westerly flow of monsoon winds associated with the tropical disturbance has been causing rainshowers and gusty wind across most of Micronesia, from Palau and Yap across Pohnpei to near Kosrae.

As of 2:45pm yesterday, NWS said the center of the tropical disturbance was 750 miles east-southeast of both Guam and Saipan.

“This disturbance will be monitored closely for the possibility that it could develop quickly and move toward the Mariana Islands,” the NWS said in its special weather statement.

NWS said showery weather and gusty winds will likely approach the Mariana Islands during the next couple of days and continue into the weekend.

NWS urged residents of the Mariana Islands to remain alert and listen for official statements and forecasts. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

CHC

From Page 2

jeopardy status slapped on the hospital could be lifted.

The new defibrillators, according to Babauta, were purchased using funds from the hospital’s collections.

Babauta said they are expecting a formal report from Medicare in the next two weeks about its observations and assessment of the public hospital.

The CEO said most of the deficiencies found by the visiting Medicare team were a result of the corporation’s funding shortage, which only received \$5 million in fiscal year 2012.

CHC’s Medicare status is still in immediate jeopardy. That means CHC must submit a comprehensive action plan within 23 days or its accreditation will be terminated. This will result in the potential loss of millions of dollars in Medicare funds. The public hospital receives from \$8 million to \$10 million in Medicare reimbursements every year.

RAPE

From Page 2

also checked with the Attorney General’s Office to confirm its sufficiency.

The OAG charged Jackson with kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, and assault for the alleged rape of a 15-year-old girl on Saipan on Oct. 9, 2010.

Police said the girl was walking along Tun Joaquin Doi Road in Finasisu on her way to her residence at 1am on Oct. 9, 2010, when Jackson forced her into his car.

Jackson allegedly brought the girl to the open field south of the Saipan airport bunkers where he allegedly raped her inside his vehicle.

After the rape, the defendant also allegedly forced the minor to smoke “ice.” The victim later managed to run away. Police arrested Jackson that night. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

federal court to 59 charges for allegedly misappropriating and diverting CNMI Treasury checks made payable to a medical supplier company totaling over \$1.7 million.

Melvin G. Ada and Leyda I. Ada pleaded not guilty to an indict-

OPA

From Page 1

Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) while they were working on a “compromise” \$114-million budget bill.

However, the committee didn’t include any of Pai’s four specific recommendations, all to help improve accountability in government. None of the requests asked for additional funding.

One of Pai’s suggestions is to include “the public auditor” as a recipient

of a mandatory quarterly report to the Legislature indicating payments of the 1 percent public auditor’s fee.

Pai said this is to better assist OPA in tracking payments of the public auditor’s fee to the Department of Finance.

“This will help increase government efficiency and avoid unnecessary duplication of effort,” said Pai, citing suggested change to Chapter VII, Section 713.

The 2013 budget bill that became Public Law 17-85, however, didn’t include OPA’s recommendation.

Budget conferees Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and Sen. Frank Cruz (R-

through various types of partnerships and collaborations, among and between parties such as the community college, the private sector, and the government.

“The CNMI is in midst of huge economic and demographic change. It is in a transition point. As I look at the data, the CNMI has not taken the opportunity to prepare itself early well for this transition,” he said, expressing the “scary data” and alarming reality that the private sector would soon suffer with the exodus of contract workers.

Foreign workers comprise the majority of private sector employees at present.

Only 60.3 percent of locals under the working population are employed, compared to the 91.2 percent labor participation of non-U.S. citizens, based on data presented by Jones on the first day of the summit.

“The reality here is: only 60 percent are in the workforce while 40 percent [locals] are out of the workforce. You have a large unemployment rate with 6,000 young people who are unemployed and even worse, lack both skills and motivation to get into the workforce,” said Jones.

He said the average U.S. states have 75 to 80 percent of its citizens in the workforce.

He specifically cited the CNMI’s need to “maintain” the functions of es-

to conduct the analysis, the administration decided to issue a request for proposal pursuant to procurement rules and regulations. Legal counsel Jim Stump is now finalizing the details of the RFP that will be going out for announcement in the next week or so,” Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Impeachment Committee chair Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) pointed out that Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos directed CUC to conduct a full, detailed economic analysis when news came out that a \$190.8-million power deal had been signed.

At the time, Fitial was on a three-week off-island trip for official and personal reasons.

Fletcher said the governor designated Stump to be in charge of conducting that full economic analysis.

Deleon Guerrero asked whether Fletcher is again “out of the loop.”

“My understanding is it hasn’t been procured at this time,” Fletcher responded.

Fletcher was among those who voiced concerns about the project and called for a full economic analysis

commit money laundering; and 28 counts of money laundering.

Mark Hanson and Colin Thompson are the court-appointed counsels for Leyda and Melvin Ada, respectively.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set the jury trial of the Ada couple for Dec. 3, 2012.

Tinian), when asked for comment yesterday, said separately they don’t recall having any discussion about OPA’s recommendations to improve accountability during their budget deliberations in September. Basa and Taimanao (Ind-Rota), recipients of OPA’s letter, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Pai also recommended a change to Chapter III, Section 302, which requires Finance to certify that lawful and sufficient funds have been appropriated before OPA can enter any contract. Exempted from such requirement are the Public School System and Northern

Marinas College.

Pai is recommending that OPA be also exempted from the requirement of prior certification of funds for three reasons.

First, government auditing standards require sufficient independence, as recognized in OPA’s implementing legislation.

Second, the public auditor is the sole expending authority for OPA’s funds.

Finally, OPA funding is not appropriated, but instead computed out of general fund appropriations and operations budgets of autonomous agencies.

no personnel at all. Only 20 establishments are considered big with 100 to 1,000 employees. Only two companies have more than 1,000 personnel.

By ethnicity, contract workers from Philippines have the highest number in the workforce with 5,625 employees; while U.S. citizens born in CNMI totaled 5,088. Those from China number 796; U.S. citizens born outside the CNMI, 756; unknown, 483; Freely Associated States, 385; Korea, 282; Japan, 204; Bangladesh, 157; other Asian countries, 282; and other Pacific islands, 15.

Jones also raised concerns about the CNMI’s lack of another industry aside from tourism. Besides the hospitality industry, the CNMI has no other, he said.

Jones cited the important partnership that needs to be taken by the Public School System and NMC. The islands, he said, cannot afford a situation where two-thirds or three-quarters of its high school graduates enter NMC for ESL programs, for example.

He said the private sector—through the Saipan Chamber of Commerce—must step up and be involved in determining the programs offered by NMC.

“Clear your expectations to the college. Part of your job is to raise the bar and it’s important you send this signal. Employers, in other states, are clear that if ‘you don’t have this certification, you can’t get hired!’” added Jones.

LACK

From Page 1

not a strong base where to build the future of your economy,” Jones told the crowd of over 200 participants in yesterday’s general membership meeting of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at the Saipan World Resort.

Jones is on island to lead a two-day summit for the Northern Marianas College.

In comparing the CNMI with nations and other states in the “percentage of young adult degree attainment” from ages 25-34, Jones’ presentation indicated that the CNMI is only at 27 percent, way below the record of such states as North Dakota and Massachusetts at 54 percent; New York at 50 percent; or Washington at 41 percent. The CNMI’s data is also far lower than other countries like Japan and Canada at 56 percent or Korea at 62 percent.

Jones said the best performing states are determined by an educated population that land in the proper workforce and workplaces.

With the expected exodus of foreign workers by 2014 or beyond, Jones believes this will further worsen the workforce situation as the Commonwealth starts to rely on residents. He stressed the importance of taking immediate actions,

ANALYSIS

From Page 1

R. Fitial on 16 allegations of felony, corruption, and neglect of duty.

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. acting executive director Alan Fletcher, in responding to a question from Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), said he recalls that the governor was present in one of the meetings with investors connected to the \$190.8-million power deal in July.

Fletcher told the impeachment panel that there is no full economic analysis being done.

“The answer is no. We have not conducted a study,” Fletcher told members of the Impeachment Committee, referring to a full economic analysis.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment yesterday, confirmed that there is still no such full economic study yet.

“A proposal was received by an interested party, but after reviewing the proposed scope and costs, the administration found that it was inappropriate. In an effort to secure the best proposal

The Adas are out on bail.

Melvin Ada was previously employed as a medical supply specialist at CHC. Leyda used to be a sales representative for Midwest Medical Supply Co. Inc., a Missouri-based company that had supplied dialysis consumables and equipment to CHC. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Marianas College.

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Saipan Development LLC builds a new 50-megawatt diesel power plant.

Fletcher said he has the same reading of the contract and PPA.

In responding to Deleon Guerrero on the Fitial administration’s assertion that the PPA would guarantee a 10 percent or greater power efficiency compared to what CUC currently obtains, Fletcher said the agreement is not specific about this.

Deleon Guerrero and other members also pointed to what could be an overpriced 50MW diesel power plant, based on former CUC executive director Abe Malae’s estimate that it should cost only \$50 million to \$60 million.

Warren also said he does not think the current agreement would guarantee much lower rates for customers. He said it would still be around 30 cents per kWh. He added that a full economic analysis will help determine this.

Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) also asked whether in Fletcher’s opinion Saipan needs a new 50MW diesel power plant. Fletcher said “yes,” but added, “But I don’t know if this agreement is the right vehicle.”

Delta launches discount program for the *man'amko*

Senate panel sets Oct. 10 public hearing on chief justice nominee

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Now that a fiscal year 2013 budget law is in place, the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations has set an Oct. 10 public hearing on Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's chief justice nominee, Alexandro C. Castro, a "welcomed development" for the Fitial administration.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the EAGI Committee, said yesterday that his panel received all the required documents from the Judiciary and the Office of the Governor, and these are now under review in preparation for Wednesday's hearing at 9am in the Senate chamber on Capitol Hill.

"We said earlier that once we have a budget law, we will set a public hearing date on the chief justice nomination, and we did," Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*.

The governor nominated associate justice Alexandro C. Castro on Sept. 13 to serve as chief justice of the CNMI Supreme Court, a post he has been occupying in an acting capacity since the late chief justice Miguel S. Demapan stepped down last year.

Castro's nomination requires the advice and consent of the Senate.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment yesterday, said "this is certainly welcome development."

"The administration strongly believes that Justice Castro

is the right choice to lead the Judiciary moving forward. We hope that the Senate will act swiftly to confirm the acting chief justice," Demapan added.

The Senate EAGI panel is urging members of the public to submit written testimony before the public hearing. It also asked the following witnesses to testify at the hearing: representatives from the governor's office, staff and management of the CNMI Supreme Court, judges, and private citizens.

Fitial's failure to nominate a chief justice since October

2011 as required by the CNMI Constitution is one of the allegations of "neglect of duty" listed in a milestone resolution impeaching him.

House Resolution 17-111 listed 16 articles of impeachment against Fitial for felony, corruption, and neglect of duty. A special committee formed by House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) is currently holding impeachment hearings.

House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), main author of the resolution, said the governor's nomination of Castro "does not remedy" the allegation of neglect of duty against Fitial by not appointing a chief justice more than 90 days since the post was vacated, or from October 2011 up until at least the filing of the impeachment resolution on Aug. 27, 2012.

If and when confirmed by the Senate, Castro will serve an eight-year term.



Castro

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delta Air Lines has launched a new and exciting program that would benefit the elderly population in the CNMI.

Walter Manglona, program coordinator for the Office on Aging, said yesterday that the airline company is offering a 12-percent discount on airline tickets valid for travel to Japan or anywhere in the United States.

The offer is available to senior citizens from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota who are at least 55 years old and have a senior citizen's discount card from the Office on Aging.

Manglona said that Delta Air Lines sales and market-

ing representatives Christopher A. Concepcion and Esther F. Sound visited them on Sept. 20 to inform them of the good news.

"Office on Aging director Rose DLG Mondala expressed her appreciation to Delta Air Lines and vowed to do her best to promote the ongoing promotion," Manglona said.

Concepcion, in a phone interview, said the discount program is for senior citizens who meet the eligibility requirements in obtaining an ID card at the Office on Aging. He said the program is their way of helping the *man'amko* in these tough economic times.

"There are other big corporations and companies that give discounts to our senior citizens

and we want to come up with our own little way to help them. We know that a lot of these seniors need to travel for personal, medical, or business reasons," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The 12-percent discount applies to regular published Economy and Business Class fares.

Concepcion said the discount program will be on a "test run" until March 31, 2013. After that, the program will be extended depending on how it is received by the elderly community. "If we see a need to continue the discount, then we will do that."

The discount will be valid for airline tickets purchased through any of the six authorized travel agencies on island: Wings Travel, Pacific Sky, Century Travel, World Tour, Mita

Travel, and Interkam Travel; at the Delta Air Lines Saipan ticketing office; or by calling Delta Air Lines Sales Support Center for CNMI and Guam.

"Delta Air Lines is pleased to offer this discount program to all senior citizens in the CNMI who are holders of the Office on Aging ID card," said Concepcion.

To obtain an ID card, visit the Office on Aging in Garapan near Gold's Gym. For more information about the discount program, visit Delta Air Lines Saipan ticketing office at the second floor of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or call the toll-free number of Delta Air Lines Sales Support Center for CNMI and Guam at 1-866-335-8268.

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Mayor's Office says Marpi quarry site is 'too steep'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office insists that the quarry site in Marpi, which they have been allowed to use, is "too steep" and might endanger the agency's lone dump truck.

Henry Hofschneider, special adviser to Mayor Donald G. Flores, said that this was the information they received from community

members who know the former Camacho Equipment quarry next to the JG Sablan quarry.

Mayor's Office personnel have yet to visit the quarry site. Hofschneider they plan to do so within the next few days.

The Department of Public Lands issued in July a temporary permit allowing the Mayor's Office to extract coral aggregates at the Marpi site.

Prior to that, the Mayor's Office dug up its corral aggregates in Kannat Tabla. The site was closed off in April this year after DPL discovered that the Mayor's Office's permit expired in 2004.

The Mayor's Office extracts corals used for maintaining or improving secondary roads on island.

According to Hofschneider, the former operator of the Marpi

quarry had excavated so deeply that they would have to determine if they can still develop other areas of the site in a manner that their "very, very old" dump truck can accommodate.

"We don't want to load up the truck and force it to climb the steep hill and then give up on us," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Hofschneider also pointed out that the distance between

the Mayor's Office and the new quarry in Marpi is farther than going to Kannat Tabla, costing the municipality more for gas.

He plans to talk to both DPL and USA Fanter, which was recently issued a 10-year permit to quarry at Kannat Tabla, in a move that hopefully would convince them to consider allowing the Mayor's Office to extract coral at the Kannat Tabla site.

PIC opens outdoor-banquet pavilion

»Magellan Restaurant to undergo renovation

Pacific Islands Club Saipan announced yesterday the opening of its outdoor-banquet pavilion, which boasts of a quaint yet accommodating atmosphere.

The recently completed dining option offers guests a relaxing experience while enjoying the natural surroundings of the island.

Chef Habib Akbar has prepared a special menu featuring international cuisine, appetizers,

entrees, and dessert dishes.

"We are pleased to offer a new choice for our guests to enjoy the island-style of cooking in the Marianas," said Habib.

Hiro Sugie, PIC general manager, also announced that the hotel resort's iconic Magellan Restaurant will undergo renovation from Oct. 8 to 15. "We are committed to continuously improving our products and services. With the renova-

tion of the Magellan Restaurant, we strive to remain popular with the local community as well as visiting guests from abroad," Sugie said.

PIC Saipan apologizes for any inconvenience the renovation may cause during the next several days.

For more information or restaurant reservations, call Ann at 237-5104 or Lisa at 237-5172. (PR)

Coast Guard cutter to be recognized for 40 years of service

HONOLULU—U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Jarvis* will be honored at a ceremony marking the end of a 40-year career, Tuesday at 10am at U.S. Coast Guard Base Honolulu.

The *Jarvis* holds the distinction of being the first Coast Guard cutter to be commissioned in Hawaii, and has called Honolulu home since being

commissioned Aug. 4, 1972. The cutter is named after Capt. David H. Jarvis, who led an expedition to rescue 300 whalers stranded off Barrow Point, Alaska in 1897.

Jarvis is the fourth of the Coast Guard's fleet of 378-foot high endurance cutters to be removed from service to make way for the new, more

capable fleet of National Security cutters.

High-endurance cutters such as the *Jarvis* have been in service since the 1960s, and are in the process of being replaced by the 418-foot National Security cutters, the largest and most technologically advanced of the Coast Guard's newest classes of cutters. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'How to Start a Business' workshop on Friday

The Saipan Business Development Center will be holding a workshop titled "How to Start a Business" this Friday, Oct. 5, from 9am to 11am at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Familia Building in Garapan. The workshop is free of charge. (PR)

SSHS mid-progress reports out

Saipan Southern High School's Term 1 mid-progress report is scheduled for pickup today, Oct. 4, from 3pm to 6pm. Teachers will be available in their classrooms for parents' and legal guardians' visit. All students will be released at 1:05pm. (PR)

TWPI holding auditions for 'Working'

Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands is pleased to announce auditions for the fall chapter play *Working* from the book by Studs Terkel and adapted for the stage by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso.

Audition are open to all high school thespians in public and private schools. Even though this is a musical, there are singing and non-singing parts in *Working*. TWPI is also looking for student directors and choreographers. Those who wish to audition for non-singing parts may audition today, Oct. 4, 4pm. Auditions for singer/actors will be held on Friday, Oct. 5. The audition for student choreographer will be on Sunday, Oct. 7, 1pm. (PR)

MHS to distribute 1Q mid-progress report today

Marianas High School will be distributing its mid-progress report to parents/guardians today, Oct. 4, from 4pm to 6pm. Students will be dismissed at 1pm. Should you have any questions, call the school at 237-3203/5. (PR)

FOA announces show times for *Deathtrap*

The Friends of the Arts is pleased to announce its next theatrical presentation, the Broadway success *Deathtrap*, scheduled for this Oct. 19, 20, and 21. Written by Ira Levin, *Deathtrap* holds the record as the longest-running comedy-thriller on Broadway. The FOA production of this two-act play will be directed by Harold Easton. Tickets are now available for purchase through any of the FOA board and members. Tickets for this show are \$15 for non-FOA members, \$12 for members and \$8 for children (11-5 years old). Want to become a member? Call Frank L. Gibson, the managing producer, at 287-7476 or email him at flgibson@yahoo.com. Membership fees are \$25 per family or \$20 for an individual. Season tickets for adults are \$40 and \$25 for children 11 to 5 years old. Children under 4 are free! (PR)



ARC STAFF

TASI DONATION

Tasi Tours and Transportation general managers David Igitol, left, and Takashi 'Frank' Murakami, right, present a \$2,500 check to American Red Cross-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh, Wednesday, Oct. 3, at Tasi Tours' facility on Beach Road.

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2012

at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,

Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan

(Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of September 20, 2012 minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings

1. None

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business

1. Update on the proposed Saipan Zoning Law of 2012
2. Update on the proposed local bill for Saipan Adult Gambling Machine Businesses (Pokers)

E. New Business

1. Election of Board Vice-Chairperson and Secretary
2. Office operations report

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

HEALTH-WALK

Join us this SATURDAY morning, OCTOBER 6, for a fun-filled walk with PSS!

LIVE HEALTHY:

Life Walk
with
PSS

Registration Information:

Saipan: 5:30am to 7:30am – 13 Fisherman Pavilion

Tinian: 6:00am to 8:00am – Tachog'na Beach

Rota: 6:00am to 8:00am – Joaquin M. Ogo Softball Field
– Dr. Rita Hocog Inos RJSHS

Original was designed in 2009 by Winona Blanco-Maratita
12th Grade Tinian High School

Judiciary says bye to Dockter

Over a recent farewell luncheon, colleagues of Supreme Court clerk Jennifer Dockter celebrated the fond memories of their association, which developed over the course of the last four years when Dockter had held two positions on the NMI Judiciary staff, with a stint in between those with the Office of the Attorney General.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman reflected back to the time in 2008 when he interviewed Jennifer, fresh out of law school, for a job as his law clerk. Dockter expressed how sincerely happy she was to have decided to come to Saipan.

Associate Justice John A. Manglona, along with Wiseman, presented Dockter with a plaque of appreciation for her professional contribution to the rule of law, and mentioned the high quality of her legal work on the most complicated of cases. They noted how fortunate the Judiciary was that Dockter accepted the appointment to the



Dockter

Supreme Court Clerk of Court position when it came available in May 2010. In her role, Dockter also served as the staff attorney for the judicial branch and council for the Board of Bar Examiners.

Dockter is a member of the bar associations of the CNMI and the State of California. She has a bachelor's degree in international business from Boise State University, where she graduated cum laude, and a law degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, California, where she graduated third in a class of 177.

She leaves the Judiciary to pursue a position in private practice here on Saipan.

Deanna M. Manglona, currently law clerk for Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo, has been appointed by acting chief justice Alexandro C. Castro to assume the Supreme Court Clerk of Court position that Jennifer is vacating. (*NMI Judiciary*)

Rose Dance School's 3rd anniversary show Oct. 6

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In celebration of its third anniversary, Rose Dance School is set to host a dance show with well-rehearsed production numbers by its dance instructors and their apprentices.

Manager and dance instructor Resty Joson said the anniversary program will be held from 6pm to 11pm on Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort in Susupe. It will be televised by KSPN 2.

The program is open to the public and entrance tickets cost \$25 per person, which includes a dinner buffet and free dance sessions with Rose Dance School's six full- and part-time instructors.

Saturday's event will be highlighted by performances featuring all kinds of ballroom dances, including swing, cha-cha, samba, tango, and waltz.

Joson said the program will showcase the dancing skills of some 50 students of the dance studio. Participants will have a final rehearsal at the venue tonight, from 7pm to 9pm, so the audiences are guaranteed a fantastic show.

The remaining original dance instructor since Rose Dance School opened in 2009, Joson

said they never wavered in their desire to teach ballroom dancing despite the economic challenges in the CNMI.

"We want everyone to learn how to do ballroom dancing so they, too, can experience its health benefits," he told *Saipan Tribune*. These benefits include burning up to 400 calories per hour, increasing energy levels and flexibility, reducing stress levels, sharpening coordination and reaction time, and improving posture, attitude, and mental health.

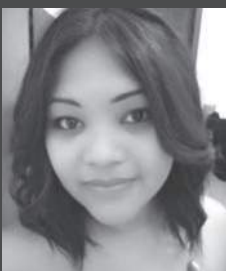
The Rose Dance School is located on the second floor of the Canton Restaurant and is owned by Carol Wong Chan and Rose Chan.

Due to insistent demand, Joson said they are planning to revive the studio's public aerobic classes, which used to be offered through the Wise Women Village Project.

For only \$1 per person per session, community members can join the aerobics classes to be held starting Oct. 8 from 6:30pm to 8pm at the Carolinian Utt.

Joson said they also offer dance classes for those who want to learn individually.

To buy tickets or for more information, call 789-7888 or 234-7236.



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Jarleen Marie Atalig Matagolai, who is celebrating her birthday today, Oct. 4! May every birthday of yours also increase your self-confidence, beauty, intelligence, insight, and wisdom. Have a great birthday! With much love, from your 670/671 familia!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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MVA gets boost at JATA World Travel Fair

As the closest U.S. destination to Japan, the Northern Mariana Islands joined forces with Brand USA at last month's Japan Association of Travel Agents World Travel Fair 2012 in Tokyo.

The Marianas Visitors Authority, which participates annually in the travel fair, joined other U.S. destinations under the Brand USA umbrella on Sept. 21-23, 2012, with positive results.

"By having our booth physically situated with Brand USA this year and by coordinating with them, the MVA's overall impact and outreach to travel fair attendees was greater," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "We look forward to the new promotional opportunities this partnership has opened up."

The MVA joined the Brand USA signing ceremony launching "Japan-U.S. Tourism Exchange Year," aimed at stimulating general travel demand from Japan to the United States with activities scheduled from September 2012 to August 2013, involving major Japanese travel wholesalers and agents with major airlines flying in and out of Japan to the United States. The MVA has formally endorsed the proposed activities.

The Northern Marianas also garnered stage time on the Brand USA stage by featuring a magic show by SandCastle Saipan and providing Saipan-da! backpacks for a charitable auction.

Other activities organized by Brand USA were a VIP reception at the U.S. Embassy on Sept. 20 and a happy-hour reception for 200 travel trade and media representatives on Sept. 21. Brand USA has spent over \$5 million in the last three months advertising the launch of new programs to increase travel between Japan and the U.S.

The JATA World Travel Fair is the largest annual travel fair in Asia, attracting 125,989 attendees this year, a 7-percent increase over last year's. (PR)



Japan Association of Travel Agents vice chair Hiromi Tagawa, third from left, and Brand USA chief business development officer Paul Cerula, third from right, sign the memorandum of understanding for the "Japan-USA Tourism Exchange Year 2012" on Sept. 21, 2012, in Tokyo.



Gordan Marciano of Pacific Development Inc. and Brenda Repeki of the Marianas Visitors Authority distribute brochures and answer questions about the Northern Mariana Islands during the Japan Association of Travel Agents World Travel Fair 2012 held on Sept. 21-23, 2012, in Tokyo.

'Green' film shown this Friday at AMP



Green silently follows the life of a female orangutan in Indonesia who is the victim of deforestation and resource exploitation.

First Friday Films is showing a new film called *Green* this Friday, Oct. 5, at 6:30pm at American Memorial Park's theatre as part of an ongoing monthly environmental film series.

Green is about the rainforests of Indonesia, the life that it holds, and the industries that are trying to destroy it. The

film silently follows the life of a female orangutan who is the victim of deforestation and resource exploitation. Although this film is an emotional journey of *Green*'s final days, it also presents the treasures of rainforest biodiversity, which are swiftly being eliminated by logging and land clearing for palm

oil plantations. *Green* makes the point that in order to save the Indonesian rainforest, we must choose to change our consumer habits so as not to be a part of the destruction. Then we can make a significant impact on the industries behind the destruction and make them change. Before the film, Shelly Kremer,

a terrestrial biologist who has worked on Saipan for many years, will give a short talk about habitat loss in general and how it is affecting species in the CNMI. Although Saipan's threats are very different in nature and scale from those of Indonesia, there are still a lot of commonalities. First Friday Films is a partnership between American Memorial Park, the Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resources Management and the Humanities Council with support from other organizations. This particular film is sponsored by CRM. As always, our film events are free and open to the public. For planning purposes, this event will run about 70 minutes. Although the film is not vulgar or explicit in any way, the content is very emotional and the film is silent. Therefore, parents might want to carefully consider whether or not to bring young children (under 13).

For more information about First Friday Films, email fff-saipan@gmail.com or check out www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. (DEQ)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 4, 2001

CPA rolls back seaport fees

The Commonwealth Ports Authority yesterday suspended the implementation of the new seaport rates, following concerns raised by major importers in light of the slowdown in shipping-related activities. CPA Board Chair Roman S. Palacios said the board voted to suspend the new seaport rates for the next six months. Rates implemented on October 1 are retroactive, he added. After March 2002, ports officials will convene to revisit and evaluate the agency's operational costs and expenditures. "Following a thorough deliberation, the board came to terms that this is not the right time to increase seaport rates. We don't want to burden the consumers," said Palacios in an interview.

NMI losing 804 visitors a day

The Northern Marianas has been losing an average of 804 visitors everyday, or a daily average decline of 49 percent, since the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. Since the national air travel suspension was lifted on September 15 up until September 30, the CNMI lost 15,276 visitors than what the islands recorded on the average before the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The Northern Marianas used to welcome an average of 1,368 visitors each day before September 11. The terrorist attacks and America's retaliation plans, which created a global aviation and tourism crisis, are expected to hurt the local economy deeper.

Oct. 4, 2003

Tinian picks new senator today

Tinian residents are urged to exercise their right to vote, as the island chooses in a special election today who would represent them in the CNMI Senate as replacement of convicted senator Jose M. Dela Cruz. Two prominent leaders are running for Dela Cruz's vacated position—CNMI Republican Party's Manuel Villagomez and Covenant Party's Joseph M. Mendiola, according to Commission on Election executive director Greg Sablan. Sablan said polling places at the Youth Center in the vicinity of the baseball field and the gymnasium will be open at exactly 7am. Polling places will be closed around 7pm.

Majority: Transmittal refusal a veto action

Despite the governor's refusal to acknowledge any Senate-concurred legislation transmittal since Aug. 28, the new Senate majority proceeded to pass bills yesterday, including, among others, the much-awaited anti-domestic violence legislation or House Bill 13-196. The four senators have also taken the position that Gov. Juan N. Babauta's decision to decline legislation transmittals from the Legislature was equivalent to a veto action on the bills that the administration has returned to the Legislature clerks' offices. "It is our position that returning, unsigned without indicating approval or disapproval, all legislation are deemed rejected. These bills approved by the Legislature, by virtue of the Governor's action returning them unsigned, have been rendered effective," read a statement released by majority members. Press Secretary Peter A. Callaghan reiterated yesterday that the bills are not being vetoed as what the majority is suggesting.

Oct. 4, 2005

7 fishermen off the hook

After days of silence, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources declared that it would not press charges against seven persons who were reportedly caught fishing within the Bird Island Sanctuary. In a prepared statement given to the *Saipan Tribune*, the DLNR acquitted the seven persons, saying that its conservation officers lacked conclusive evidence to positively identify any of the fishermen and their boat at the time when they were fishing within the sanctuary, where the law prohibits the taking of marine life. The alleged failure to identify the culprits and their boat happened even as the DLNR also claimed that Fish and Wildlife conservation officers had observed the fishing activity at the sanctuary for about four hours—from 9pm until 1am the following morning two Sundays ago.

Continental starts layoff of Saipan employees

Some Continental Micronesia employees have already lost their jobs on Saipan in view of the pullout of Japan Airlines from the Marianas route effective today. Continental Micronesia staff vice president for sales and marketing Wally Dias confirmed yesterday that, as earlier announced, Saipan employees would lose their jobs beginning this week due to loss of service contracts with Japan Airlines and Northwest Airlines. He declined to specify, however, the number of employees who have already been let go. Currently, he said, Continental Micronesia has 150 staff on Saipan. By January 2006, the number of personnel will be down to 35. Continental Airlines would lose its ground-handling contract with Northwest effective Dec. 1.

Taiwan now included in US visa waiver program

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Taiwan has been included in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, allowing its travelers to visit the U.S. for tourism and business purposes for up to 90 days without a visa.

According to the the announcement from the Department of Homeland Security,

Taiwan's inclusion in the program will be effective on Nov. 1, 2012.

The announcement follows efforts by a number of Members of Congress urging DHS to include Taiwan under the visa waiver program.

Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) cosigned a letter

with American Samoa Delegate Eni Faleomavaega urging the Obama Administration to make this change. Congress has recognized the significant economic benefits from adding Taiwan to the program.

"I am pleased that the Obama Administration has extended visa-free travel to the U.S. for

visitors from Taiwan starting this year," said Bordallo. "This announcement will help facilitate cultural exchange and is a significant development in the relationship between our countries. Adding Taiwan to the visa waiver program will also mean increased travel to the U.S., including Guam. Guam

has seen an increase in tourism and business opportunities stemming from Taiwan's inclusion in our Guam visa waiver program, and this impact is evident in our island's thriving Taiwanese community. I am hopeful that Taiwan's inclusion in the U.S. visa waiver program will likely

have the same effect on a national scale and will be beneficial for our country's tourism industry and many American workers. I am also hopeful that this announcement will lead to increased flights between Guam and Taiwan facilitating economic opportunities for our island." **(PR)**

Empty Vessel says thanks for bazaar supporters



Empty Vessel Ministry members and supporters have their picture taken with Chef William of Mariana Resort & Spa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Empty Vessel Ministry wishes to thank Mariana Resort & Spa and all the vendors who participated in its Bazaar/Flea Market event. The public had a chance to taste the winning recipe that won in the recent Saipan's Next Top Chef competition. The recipe will be available by Oct. 15, 2012, at the Mariana Resort & Spa.

"We appreciate everyone for supporting our activities and supporting the vendors by shopping at their booth at our recent flea market at the ABA building. Your support in purchasing their products helps most of them put food on the table for their families," said the Ministry in a statement.

Aside from the monetary donations, the church organization also received household supplies that will be given away to families in need on Saipan. The church will also sell a portion of these donations to raise money for its program.

"Many families have benefited from our donations; therefore if you have clothes, shoes, utensils, and any items you want to donate, we will be happy to receive them at Empty Vessel. We request that all donations are in good condition so we can give to families in need."

Other ways that people can help Empty Vessel is by sponsoring a child in Kenya, the Philippines, and Bangladesh for only \$30 a month. This will provide education and basic needs for a street child or orphans. "We support education here in Saipan therefore we appreciate school supplies for our children," the church statement adds.

Empty Vessel also believes



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dress storeowner Min sells clothes and jewelry.



Maricel B. Sablan for System 4 U Total Comestics Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

in empowering women because it is the women that ensure that the family is taken cared of. "Because of the generous donation from our supporters, 61

women in Kenya have received small loans for them to start small businesses," the church said.

Those who would like to par-

ticipate in Empty Vessel's flea market in Gualo Rai at the ABA building across the EZ Market may contact 483-0162 or 235-2340. **(PR)**



is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions :

Position **(1) HOTEL RESORT OPERATIONS MANAGER**

Qualifications: College degree graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience in hotel management. Plan, direct or coordinate activities of an organization or department that provides lodging and other accommodations. Also, responsible for developing, establishing and maintaining marketing strategies to meet organizational objectives. Able to work independently. Good organizational and planning skills are essential. Ability to work in remote field office for several months at a time as necessary. Accountable for customer satisfaction and providing high quality service in representing company and also has the ability to speak, read and write in a foreign language preferably in Japanese. Must have knowledge in Front Office Operations, Sales and Marketing strategies, Housekeeping operations and other hotel operations. Also, takes full responsibility of the entire hotel operations in the absence of the General / Resident Manager.

Position **(1) FRONT OFFICE MANAGER**

Qualifications: College degree graduate with a minimum of 2 years experience as a Front Office Manager. Coordinates front office activities of hotel and resolves problems arising from guest's complaints, reservation and room assignment activities, and unusual request and inquiries. Assigns duties and shifts to workers and observes performances to ensure adherence to hotel policies and established operating procedures. Confers and cooperates with other department heads to ensure coordination of hotel activities. Answers inquiries pertaining to hotel policies and services. May patrol public rooms, investigates disturbances, and warn trouble makers. May interview and hire applicants. May receive and process advance registration payments. May send out letters of confirmation or return checks when registration cannot be accepted. Applicant must be fluent and knowledgeable in speaking, writing and reading in Chinese.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than October 05, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is located next to Saipan World Resort Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

POI Aviation invited qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

- Administrative Services Officer**
College degree with 4 years progressive administrative experience.
- Accounting Manager**
College degree with financial management major plus 3 years of progressive financial management experience.
- Lead Aircraft Service Agent (2)**
High school diploma or its equivalent with 5 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning.
- Lead Ramp Agent (2)**
High school diploma or its equivalent with 5 years experience in ramp, cargo loading and unloading operations.
- Aircraft Maintenance Technician (3)**
Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft.
- Aircraft Maintenance Technician (3)**
Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft.
- Lead Aircraft Maintenance Technician**
AS degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering with 4 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft.
- Ground Support Equipment Mechanic (2)**
Diploma for technical / vocational course on automotive / diesel engines with minimum of 2 years experience in repair and overhaul of gas and diesel engines for automobiles and other specialized motorized equipment.
- Ground Support Equipment Mechanic Supervisor**
Diploma from technical / vocational course on automobile gas / diesel engines with minimum 4 years experience, 2 of the 4 years in a supervisory capacity, in electrical, electronic, pneumatic, hydraulic system and gas / diesel engine maintenance.
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High school diploma or its equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger or customer service.
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AA / AS degree with 8 years of progressive airline passenger service experience, with 3 of 8 years in supervisory capacity.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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By **WILLIAM MCKENZIE**
The Dallas Morning News

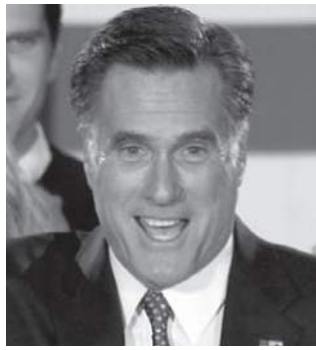
William McKenzie is an editorial columnist for The Dallas Morning News. Readers may write to him at the Dallas Morning News, Communications Center, Dallas, Texas 75265; email: wmckenzie@dallasnews.com



Four questions for Obama and Romney



Obama



Romney

Starting Wednesday night, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney will square off in three debates over the next 19 days. This is big-time pressure for the campaigns. Strategists are doing everything possible to ensure their guy doesn't goof up.

But that's the insider's game. The rest of us have a different stake in these debates. We need to see the type of person who will lead the country.

Here are four questions that could help us get a better sense of them. Being a pundit and a former staffer on a presidential campaign, I couldn't resist suggesting some answers.

If you could have a do-over in this campaign, what would it be?

Romney: I'd take back my criticism of the Affordable Care Act cutting Medicare by \$700 billion. I made it sound as if we can cure our long-term entitlement problems without getting savings from Medicare.

I'm disappointed that my opponent's taking that \$700 billion in Medicare savings and spending it on subsidies to help others buy health insurance. There are better ways to finance subsidies for the uninsured. We need to take any savings from Medicare and use them to shore up the system's ailing finances.

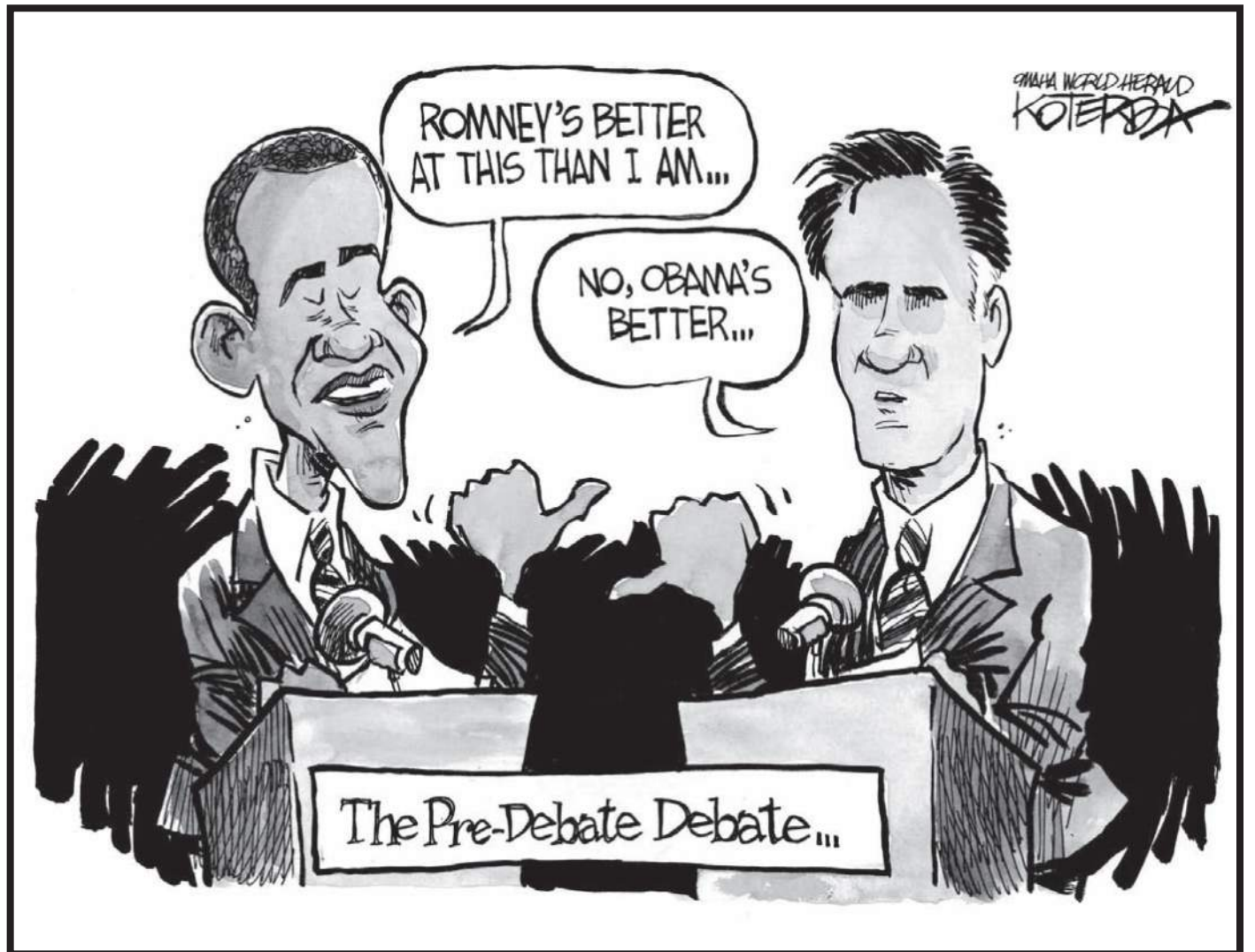
Obama: I would back off the class warfare that I've ratcheted up. We can't get our fiscal house in order simply by taxing the rich. The much bigger issue is overhauling entitlement programs. I will use the rest of this campaign to lay the groundwork for controlling the big ones, Social Security and Medicare. I want to go down as a problem solver, and this federal debt is our biggest domestic problem.

If elected, what's the one area in which you'd redirect your party?

Romney: I would take the advice of Republicans such as Jeb Bush and broaden our base. We have plenty of white, older, male middle-class Americans. They generally think alike on spending, taxes and the private sector's importance. But I don't want us to become an echo chamber. I want to hear from people who don't fit our profile, particularly Latinos. I look forward to Gov. Bush's forthcoming book on immigration reform as a way to start expanding our reach.

Obama: I would get on the phone with our chairman and tell

See **FOUR** on Next Page



Brain science's day in court

By **ROBERT M. SAPOLSKY**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Scientists and social scientists tend to avoid one another. But when they pool their expertise, things can get interesting. One case in point is the growing collaboration between neuroscience and criminology.

This new field (currently referred to by the unfortunate name of "neurolaw") is premised on a crucial fact: abnormal behavior is the product of an abnormal brain, and thus if you are going to make an informed judgment about the former (especially in the context of the criminal justice system), you'd better know something about the latter. A recent fascinating paper presents a heartening advance in this young field.

Writing in the journal *Science*, Lisa Aspinwall and colleagues at the University of Utah examined the effects of neurobiological knowledge on sentencing decisions of judges. In the study, 181 judges were told about a hypothetical case (based on fact) involving a man convicted of an appalling violent crime; the judges were asked to decide on a prison term for him.

The information they were given came in two versions. One group of judges was told that the man had been diagnosed by a variety of experts as an incurable "psychopath"—a psychiatric label describing a certain kind of predator who has a reptilian, remorseless indifference to the suffering of others. The second group was given that same information plus information about what specifically scientists had found when they studied the man's brain.

The brain studies turned up two aberrant things in the hypothetical criminal: "atypical function" of a brain region called the amygdala, and abnormally low activity of a brain enzyme called MAO-alpha. This wasn't just make-believe science. Both abnormalities have been implicated by neuroscientists as playing a role in aggression, and both have been cited in court during criminal trials (although at this point the science isn't remotely advanced enough to accurately predict violent behavior from examining amygdaloid function or MAO-alpha activity).

Introducing neurological information like this could potentially generate two very different subtexts. The first one is tailor-made for a prosecutor: "The guy's brain is broken and no one can repair it, which means he is a continued threat and must be isolated from society." The other is defense-friendly: "The guy's brain is broken; how can you hold him criminally responsible for behavior he cannot control?"

Recognizing the potential for these divergent reactions, the scientists designed their experiment so that half the judges were told that the information about the amygdala and MAO-alpha had been presented in the trial by the prosecution, and the other half were told the defense had introduced it.

The study produced a variety of findings. For example, judges

were asked whether, in the process of deciding on sentencing, they took into account any "aggravating factors" (such as lack of remorse on the man's part) that had caused them to lengthen the sentence. Being informed that the criminal had something wrong with a part of his brain and with his brain chemistry, whether presented by the prosecution or defense, caused a small increase in the percentage of judges who perceived aggravating factors.

Something much more dramatic emerged when judges were asked whether they considered any "mitigating factors" (such as mental illness or lack of control on the man's part) that led them to shorten the sentence. When the brain information came from the prosecution, there was no effect on the percentage of judges who cited mitigating factors in their decisions (roughly 30 percent). But when the information was presented by the defense, it more than doubled the percentage of those citing mitigating factors. In other words, the news that the criminal had something wrong with his brain had different effects on the judges depending on whether the news was presented by the prosecution or the defense.

As would thus be expected, hearing about brain abnormalities from the defense led to shorter recommended sentences. But along with that came a truly puzzling finding. Even though judges who were told that the information about the amygdala and MAO-alpha came from the prosecution were less likely to say they were influenced by mitigating factors; those judges still shortened sentences just as much.

The differences weren't huge. Without the neurological information, the average sentence was 13.9 years; with it, 12.8, a mere 8 percent decrease. But lurking in the study was a truly important finding, a profound one, one that was largely ignored in media reports. When neuroscientific evidence of brain anomalies was introduced, judges were three times more likely to cite both aggravating and mitigating factors—but only when they were told the evidence had been introduced by the defense.

In other words, they grasped that the information was important and necessary to consider when facing the daunting task of making the punishment fit the crime. And they understood the nuance: that even if a crime was rooted in biology and the perpetrator might have committed acts he could not control, he is no less dangerous to society. It made judges more reflective; it made them think harder about the complexities.

We can wish that the judges would have grasped the nuance regardless of which side presented the evidence. But still, as a neuroscientist, I consider the findings an important achievement for my profession.

Robert M. Sapolsky is a professor of neuroscience at Stanford University and the author of *A Primate's Memoir*, among other books. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

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A disclaimer

A friend and reader of this column asked why we hardly take a direct approach on a topic, particularly live ones in the CNMI, at the moment like Ed Buckingham and the Retirement Fund, impeachment, and the state of Commonwealth education.

That NMC enrolls many students on remedial and tutorial programs is not news. I always thought that the practice is to access scholarship options. Still, having taught sixth grade at PSS, I could understand how what is taught has no direct relevance to tests, and vice versa. I do make comments on PSS occasionally, much to the chagrin of some of my colleagues who notice that most are on the shade of the not-so-edifying.

The matter of former AG Ed Buckingham, particularly his hasty exit from the CNMI after signing with the governor a sole-source contract to address a CUC production need, is a matter for the procedure-concerned citizens amongst us. I dealt with Buckingham briefly. I sought a win-win settlement for a guest worker incarcerated beyond the term imposed by the court. The system misplaced the person's passport and could not be immediately deported as mandated by court. The person languished in confinement sans explanation before a friend finally got a lawyer to petition for the release.

Ed was noncommittal and cautious, and wanted to determine first if I had any legal standing in the matter. I finally ended finding other resource to enable the party concerned to return home and start a new life, at no cost to the financially strapped local government.

We withdrew our contribution to the Retirement Fund when we went on medical leave as a result of a spondylosis diagnosis. Getting a referral to get an MRI to confirm diagnosis was not forthcoming and we did not wish to waste time. I do not write about this 'cause, according to an SF colleague, it comes out as "whining."

In any case, we did not get the benefit of the CNMI counterpart on retirement, and the current negotiations re Social Security do not include a buy-back provision for those who left the system.

What if we're wrong on Iran?

By **ROGER Z. GEORGE**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

As the U.S. contemplates whether to attack Iran's nuclear facilities, intelligence community leaders should be asking themselves a question: What if we're wrong?

That question wasn't asked—or at least wasn't answered—in the run-up to the 2003 Iraq war, with devastating consequences. Before giving up on containment or deterrence policies and undertaking a "preventive war" against a nation that has not attacked the United States, we should be as certain as possible of the evidence.

Iran today presents an even murkier intelligence picture than Iraq did in 2003. We have not had a diplomatic presence there since 1979 and have had to rely on intelligence collected through technology, international inspectors and foreign intelligence relationships. In the absence of solid intelligence, the intelligence community has had to fall back on its own assumptions or mind-sets regarding Iran's nuclear program and make educated guesses about how its government would probably operate its programs. Our assessments of Iran's military capabilities have had to rely in part on our understanding of how American weapon developers conduct tests and develop weapons. Such analytic assumptions have and can again lead to incorrect conclusions.

So what can be done to avert another military strike based on devastatingly wrong intelligence estimates? How can we avoid terrible mistakes, followed by commission investigations and finger-pointing?

First, we must set extremely high standards for evidence. Intelligence professionals must challenge themselves to look at their

We are two years short on our SS requirement. The five years with the CNMI would be more than sufficient to meet it. The matter has since moved to the "forgiveness" side of our ledger. That, or go stateside to flip hamburgers! Out of the system, we have no relevant comments to make. We leave it to the retirees to take up the cause of revamping the system, or graciously consign it to the annals of history.

The impeachment proceedings versus Uncle Ben reminds me of Bill Clinton's struggle with the U.S. Congress over the Lewinsky affair. I was living in Washington, D.C. then, and other than the grandstanding involved to make local politicians look good with their constituency back home, the prolonged process did not amount to anything diddly.

We all have read of Uncle Ben's state of health, and though looking hale and well in public, a colleague commented that the Guv obviously has made peace with fate and destiny. A person on the way to oblivion is hardly concerned with the niceties that normal mortals attend to, and there is the rub. Want to second-guess the man's psychology? Go for it. But wily or smart, the man does what he perceives needs to be done. Period.

We are a banana republic, without much of the banana to boast about, and hardly a republic. So Ed's behavior of hosting a political event while being an AG is hardly commendable, but it is not novel even among advanced democracies. Why, the mayor of Chicago raises funds for the incumbent President, and though presumably done in his personal capacity (duh!), it is hardly kosher to moral sensibility!

That transparency is not a permanent character of government administration is conceded. It is a matter to be worked on, not an occasion for sanctimonious wailing. Corruption is often just someone's gesture of appreciation and often done with the cloak of legality. That legal estops need be brought to court when it occurs is a given (why else would we need so many lawyers per capita on island); but we need not have any more choruses pretending that the incident

forecasts skeptically, asking whether underlying assumptions about Iranian behavior and technical talent are well founded. Policymakers should encourage this kind of critical thinking and be attentive to signs of faulty logic or flawed intelligence.

Second, the U.S. must not over-rely on information gathered and supplied by foreign governments. Such intelligence can be useful, but it is often provided as much to influence action by American policymakers as to provide unbiased and accurate information. Much of the foreign intelligence used to analyze Iraq's supposed development of weapons of mass destruction, for example, was self-serving, biased or flat-out fabricated. The U.S. is almost certainly the target for influence operations designed to shape American perceptions of the Iranian nuclear program. We should be especially wary of reporting that fits what we are expecting to see and challenge that reporting vigorously.

Third, U.S. intelligence personnel should be kept at arm's length from policy discussions, particularly those involving military options. Being too close to the decisions made by the Bush administration more than likely contributed to then-CIA Director George Tenet's assertion that the U.S. had "slam-dunk" evidence that Saddam Hussein was actively developing weapons of mass destruction. Senior intelligence officials are not immune from wanting to be team players, and if a policy team is looking for information to support a desired action, this can skew an intelligence agency's views on the information it has gathered. James R. Clapper, the U.S. director of national intelligence, would be well advised to run all intelligence about Iran's nuclear weapons program through a rigorous "red-teaming" exercise, involving outside experts who have no ax to grind or connections to the current administration or its policies.

Fourth, the intelligence community should never be called on to

Romney: Shared responsibility. We're not just a nation of little islands. We are linked together as one. I, of course, believe in individual freedom. We each derive our dignity from being made in God's image. But our destiny is as one people. We need to ensure that all have the opportunities to move ahead.

Obama: The powers of the private sector. He explains how market principles like choice and competition can solve problems, including with our entitlement programs. He also talks about how open markets can allocate resources. And not just within our country but across the world so more people have economic opportunity.

It's the day after your inauguration. What one thing would you

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergara2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



should elicit indignation.

My former sixth grade students would be into, or heading to, college by now. The practice of standardized education that we insist on applying (NCLB) was relevant when we were training folks to be peons in public bureaucratic slots and private financial management and supervision offices. Those were the days when Land Grant Colleges were opened to absorb the unneeded extra hand in the farm.

The bureaus have grown into gargantuan sizes and have taken lives of their own separate from the efficacy of the services they were created to provide. Most CNMI workers are in for the security of employment rather than out to provide efficient service. We train people to follow standard forms rather than be sensing, feeling, thinking, deciding, and doing, human beings.

Meanwhile, the private sector leeches on government contracts (federal and local) to trickle down benefits, and even in the ill-fated garment industry days, fees to operate rather than to produce were the sources of public revenues.

The challenge before us is not how loudly we bewail standard practices, and look for who is to blame. It is whether we are awake to what we are doing, or even to what is being done to us. But mostly, it is our day, and we can live it, recreate it, or waste it away. This is the day we have.

make the case for intervention, as was the situation in 2003, when so-called white papers on Iraq's WMD program were fashioned by the intelligence community to support Bush administration policies. Such reports are not rigorous intelligence assessments but rather advocacy pieces devoid of the important qualifiers that coordinated intelligence reports should carry.

Finally, the intelligence community should immediately, if it has not already done so, prepare candid assessments of the effect military strikes against Iran's nuclear facilities could have on both Iranian politics and regional stability. In 2003, such assessments proved to be prescient, but they were completed only after the decision had been made to invade Iraq. Consequently, they had virtually no impact on decision-makers, who had convinced themselves that Iraqis would greet us as liberators and quickly restore the functioning of their society and economy.

Needless to say, the decision to attack another Islamic state would carry consequences far beyond reducing Iran's military potential, and the intelligence community needs to analyze those consequences concurrently with its analysis of intelligence regarding Iran's nuclear intentions.

These steps will not guarantee that intelligence used to reach the important decisions regarding Iran will be perfect. Clearly, it will not be. However, the intelligence community should not repeat mistakes it made in 2002 and 2003, nor allow itself to become the scapegoat for decisions that properly reside with the nation's political and military leadership.

Roger Z. George, a former national intelligence officer, teaches at the National War College in Washington. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

FOUR

From Page

him we've got to take the lead on redistricting. We need to be the party that champions independent commissions drawing congressional lines. All these partisan districts are killing me. They send folks here that are either hard-line Republicans or Harry Reid wannabes. I can't find enough practical folks from either party who want to do deals.

What is one good idea your opponent has been selling?

ask the last president from your party?






Romney: I'd ask George W. Bush what he learned as a CEO president. We both are MBAs and I, too, prefer being a chief executive with strong captains. But how do you ensure information flows up to you? I'd ask one more thing, too: How would he sell immigration reform to Capitol Hill? He's the only one to come close.

Obama: I'd ask Bill Clinton for more details about his triangulation strategy. That benefited him after his big 1994 comeuppance. By co-opting Republicans on some of their issues, he got deals done. That includes a budget deal. I'd add one more as well: How'd he get the energy to work with Congress? He seemed to relish it.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 25 mph and gusty at times.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 79°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 79°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Palau	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 79
Chuuk	Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 80

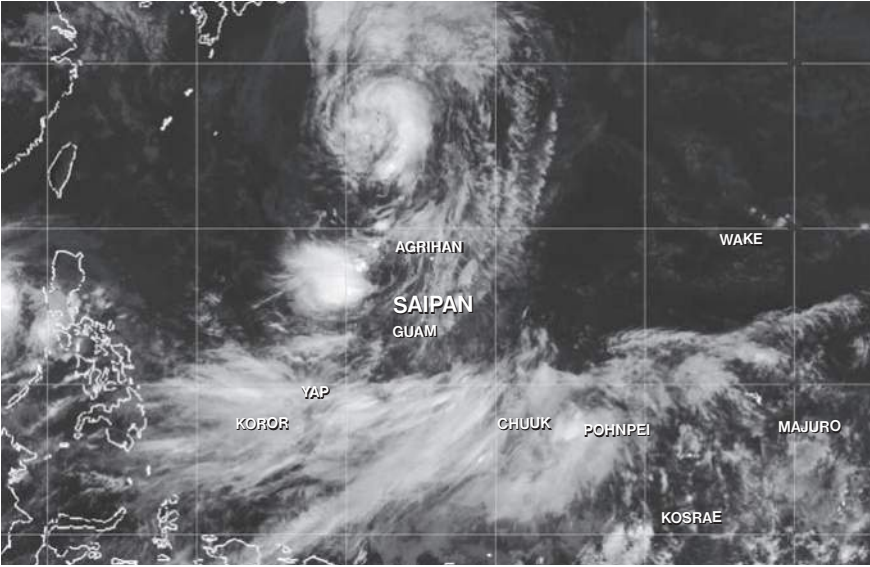
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 53
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 55
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 74
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 52
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 63
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 78
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 77 ▼ 67
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 65
Paris	Rain	▲ 60 ▼ 53
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 61
Rome	Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 58
Salem	Windy	▲ 73 ▼ 40
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 57
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 75 ▼ 56
Tokyo	Windy	▲ 81 ▼ 67
Washington, DC	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 70

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
4:57 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
11:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
5:20 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
10:20 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Maliksi (20W) is centered 740 miles north-northwest of Saipan near 25N141E moving northward at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 50 mph. Numerous showers and thunderstorms are within 150 miles of Maliksi. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are west of Saipan between 18N and 15N from 138E to 142E and northeast of Saipan within 100 miles of a line from 22N146E to 16N149E. For more information on Tropical Storm Maliksi see bulletins issued by Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and advisories issued by National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. Westerly monsoon winds across much of Micronesia are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Palau, Yap and Chuuk and farther eastward to the Pohnpei area between 12N and 2N from 130E to 158E and just north of Kosrae between 12N and 6N from 161E to 165E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Majuro across Butaritari and Tarawa to the south of a line from 7N170E to 3N176E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Monday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:50 PM	9:11 AM
Friday	9:37 PM	10:01 AM
Saturday	10:25 PM	10:50 AM
Sunday	11:15 PM	11:37 AM
Monday		12:24 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPT 23, 2012

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)				ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5	UA5062	3:45am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5	UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA5062	2:40am	4:20am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5074	11:30am	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily	UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS)				PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
U2608	3:20am	6:35am	4, 7	OZ607	9:25pm	2:20am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM	UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN	UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
				OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN				
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 102	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Auto sales, home prices help buoy weak US economy



In this Aug. 13, 2012 photo, Mercedes SUV bodies are seen during a tour of the SKD packaging facility at BLG Logistics, Inc. in Vance, Ala.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. economy is looking more resilient, thanks in part to encouraging signs for the two most expensive purchases most Americans make: cars and homes.

Cheap loans and a bounty of fuel-efficient models enticed people to buy new vehicles at a brisk pace last month. And the nation enjoyed another year-over-year surge in home prices in August—a sign that the housing industry is making a sustained comeback.

Both trends reflect rising confidence in the economy. More families are replacing aging cars. And rising home prices are leading more would-be buyers to conclude that a home is a good investment.

ADB slashes growth forecasts for developing Asia

BANGKOK (AP)—After years of rapid growth, Asia's developing economies now face much more modest prospects and must refashion themselves to reduce dependence on exports, the Asian Development Bank said Wednesday in a report that slashes growth forecasts for this year and next.

The ADB said growth in developing Asia, which includes giant emerging economies such as India, China and Indonesia, will slow to 6.1 percent this year from 7.2 percent last year and only partly rebound to 6.7 percent

Two surveys last week also reported improving consumer confidence.

The apparent progress could benefit President Barack Obama, who faces off with Mitt Romney on Wednesday in an economy-focused debate just five weeks ahead of the election.

Despite the brightening auto and housing industries, the broader American economy is still struggling. It grew at a meager 1.3 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter. Most economists foresee little strengthening the rest of the year.

Hiring remains too sluggish to reduce high unemployment, which is at 8.1 percent. The manufacturing sector is struggling to grow consistently.

Workers' pay is lagging inflation. A dismal European economy has cut demand for U.S. exports.

And the economy remains at risk of falling off a "fiscal cliff" early next year. That's when tax increases and deep spending cuts take effect unless Congress reaches a budget deal. If those measures do take effect, the economy could fall into recession.

Yet many Americans appear to be looking past the economy's troubles.

Surveys by the private Conference Board and the University of Michigan show that while consumers are anxious about current conditions, they're more optimistic about the future.

Changyong Rhee.

Within the region, China is expected to grow 7.7 percent this year and 8.1 percent in 2013, a sharp drop from 9.3 percent in 2011. India's growth will slow to 5.6 percent in 2012, down from 6.5 percent in 2011.

Service sectors in the region are already large—making up nearly half of the region's gross domestic product in 2010—but they need to modernize to spur investment and the development of new products, as well as diversify away from exports, according to the ADB.

seats have come loose on three separate flights, two of which made emergency landings. Federal officials are looking into the matter, which safety advocates consider to be serious.

AA pilots expect contract talks to resume

DALLAS (AP)—American Airlines and its pilots' union have agreed to resume stalled contract negotiations. The union also said Tuesday that it will de-

lay releasing results of a strike-authorization vote scheduled to end Wednesday. The developments could lead to a breakthrough in a bitter standoff between the nation's third-biggest airline and its 7,500 active pilots. Thomas Horton, CEO of American parent AMR Corp., which is operating under bankruptcy protection, said Tuesday he was pleased that "intensive bargaining" was scheduled to begin this week.

Nation

Baby bust continues: US births down for 4th year

NEW YORK (AP)—U.S. births fell for the fourth year in a row, the government reported Wednesday, with experts calling it more proof that the weak economy has continued to dampen enthusiasm for having children.

But there may be a silver lining: The decline in 2011 was just 1 percent—not as sharp a fall-off as the 2 to 3 percent drop seen in other recent years.

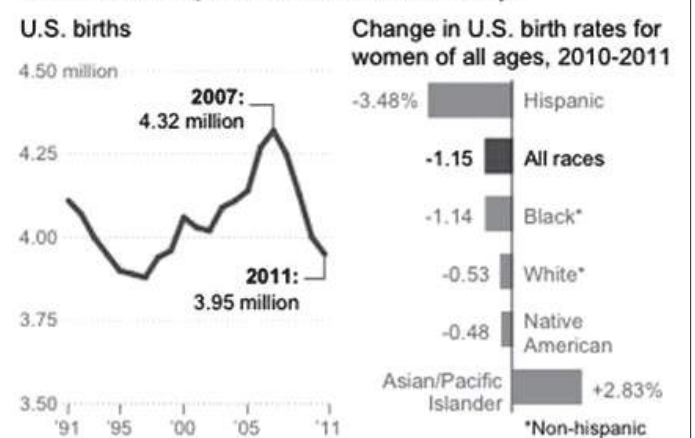
"It may be that the effect of the recession is slowly coming to an end," said Carl Haub, a senior demographer with the Population Reference Bureau, a Washington, D.C.-based research organization.

Most striking in the new report were steep declines in Hispanic birth rates and a new low in teen births. Hispanics have been disproportionately affected by the flagging economy, experts say, and teen birth rates have been falling for 20 years.

Falling births is a relatively new phenomenon in this country. Births had been on the rise since the late 1990s and hit an

Birth rate decline

2011 marked the fourth year for a drop in U.S. births, which several experts tie to the weak economy.



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

AP

all-time high of more than 4.3 million in 2007.

But fewer than 4 million births were counted last year—the lowest number since 1998.

Among the people who study this sort of thing, the flagging economy has been seen as the primary explanation. The theory is that many women or couples who are out of work, underem-

ployed or have other money problems feel they can't afford to start a family or add to it.

The economy officially was in a recession from December 2007 until June 2009. But well into 2011, polls show most Americans remained gloomy, citing anemic hiring, a depressed housing market and other factors.

Intelligence effort named citizens, not terrorists

WASHINGTON (AP)—A multibillion-dollar information-sharing program created in the aftermath of 9/11 has improperly collected information about innocent Americans and produced little valuable intelligence on terrorism, a Senate report concludes. It portrays an effort that ballooned far beyond anyone's ability to control.

What began as an attempt to put local, state and federal officials in the same room analyzing the same intelligence has instead cost huge amounts of money for data-mining software, flat screen televisions and, in Arizona, two fully equipped Chevrolet Tahoes that are used for commuting, investigators found.

The lengthy, bipartisan report is a scathing evaluation of what the Department of Homeland Security has held up as a crown jewel of its security efforts. The report underscores a reality of post-9/11 Washington: National security programs tend to grow, never shrink, even when their money and manpower far surpass the actual subject of terrorism. Much of this money went for ordinary local crime-fighting.

Disagreeing with the critical conclusions of the report, Homeland Security says it is outdated, inaccurate and too focused on information produced by the program, ignoring benefits to local governments from their involvement with federal

intelligence officials.

Because of a convoluted grants process set up by Congress, Homeland Security officials don't know how much they have spent in their decade-long effort to set up so-called fusion centers in every state. Government estimates range from less than \$300 million to \$1.4 billion in federal money, plus much more invested by state and local governments. Federal funding is pegged at about 20 percent to 30 percent.

Despite that, Congress is unlikely to pull the plug. That's because, whether or not it stops terrorists, the program means politically important money for state and local governments.

White House widening covert war in North Africa

WASHINGTON (AP)—Small teams of special operations forces arrived at American embassies throughout North Africa in the months before militants launched the fiery attack that killed the U.S. ambassador in Libya. The soldiers' mission: Set up a network that could quickly strike a terrorist target or rescue a hostage.

But the teams had yet to do much counterterrorism work in Libya, though the White House signed off a year ago on the plan to build the new military task force in the region and the advance teams had been there for six months,

according to three U.S. counterterrorism officials and a former intelligence official. All spoke only on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the strategy publicly.

The counterterrorism effort indicates that the administration has been worried for some time about a growing threat posed by al-Qaida and its offshoots in North Africa. But officials say the military organization was too new to respond to the attack in Benghazi, where the administration now believes armed al-Qaida-linked militants surrounded the lightly

guarded U.S. compound, set it on fire and killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Republicans have questioned whether the Obama administration has been hiding key information or hasn't known what happened in the immediate aftermath of the attack. They are using those questions in the final weeks before the U.S. elections as an opportunity to assail President Barack Obama on foreign policy, an area where he has held clear leads in opinion polls since the killing of Osama bin Laden in 2011.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

American says installation job caused seat snafu

DALLAS (AP)—American Airlines said that improperly installed clamps caused seats to pop loose on two planes during flights and an inspection turned up four others with the same problem. The airline said Tuesday that it inspected and fixed the seats on 36 of its Boeing 757 jets and planned to check 11 other planes. In the past week, rows of

Asia

HK firm says ferry in tragedy passed inspection

HONG KONG (AP)—An official with the company that owns the ferry involved in a collision that killed 38 people said Wednesday that the vessel recently passed inspection, but he had no details about how the crash occurred.

Nelson Ng, general manager of Hong Kong and Kowloon (Ferry) Holdings, said the company has not been able to talk to the captain of its ferry, who has been hospitalized since Monday's crash.

Police have arrested seven crew members from both boats, including the captains, on suspicion of operating the vessels unsafely, but have not elaborated on their actions.

The 38 people killed were on a boat owned by a utility company that was taking about 120 of its workers and

their families to watch fireworks when it collided with the ferry and partially sank.

The ferry was damaged but made it to port. About 100 people on both vessels were taken to hospitals for injuries.

Salvage crews raised the half-submerged Lamma IV using three crane barges and later towed it the island's shoreline. Heavy damage was visible, with part of the compartment at the stern torn away and railings bent and twisted.

Police have arrested three crew members from the Lamma IV and four from the ferry, the Sea Smooth. Police Commissioner Tsang Wai-hung said both crews are suspected of having not "exercised the care required of them by law," but he did not elaborate.

The crash was Hong Kong's

deadliest accident in more than 15 years and its worst maritime accident in more than 40. Large-scale accidents are rare in a semiautonomous enclave off mainland China that has one of Asia's most advanced infrastructures and economies with first-rate public services.

Some relatives of the dead went to the scene off Hong Kong island's southwestern coast to toss spirit money in honor of the victims on Tuesday, while others waited at the morgue for news about loved ones.

Yuen Sui-see, the director of operations of Power Assets Holdings, which owns the boat's owner, Hong Kong Electric, said the Lamma IV was carrying 121 passengers and three crew members, well below its capacity of more than 200.

Philippines, Muslim rebels close to peace accord

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government and Muslim rebels have resumed talks on resolving final differences in a preliminary peace accord they hope to conclude soon, in what is expected to be a major breakthrough toward ending a decades-long rebellion.

Government negotiators met with representatives of the 11,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Tuesday to attempt to seal what they call a "framework agreement" on major issues, including the extent of power, revenues and territory to be granted to a Muslim-administered region. It would be the most significant progress in years of negotiations on ending a rebellion that has left more than 120,000 people dead and held back development in the southern Philippines.

Western governments have

long worried that rebel strongholds could become breeding grounds for al-Qaida-affiliated extremists.

Rebel negotiator Mohagher Iqbal said at the talks' resumption that they are "now on the home stretch and the smell of success is reinforced every day."

Iqbal warned that if the negotiations are not concluded soon, opponents might endanger a final deal. A breakaway rebel group has opposed the talks, and some Christian politicians, wary of losing land and power to minority Muslims, have been accused in the past of undermining the negotiations.

"If we cannot conclude it soon successfully, now that we are at the brink of the exercise, we will be in trouble," Iqbal said. "The greatest source of risk comes from spoilers, leaders, and parties who believe that these ... negotiations threaten their power and interests."

Government negotiator Marvic Leonen said that "to state that what we hope to be able to do again in the next few days is historical is definitely an understatement."

"We are on the brink of layering the written predicates that can frame the process of building trust as we usher in an era of peace, of hope and of recovery," Leonen said. But he added that both sides "must always remain guarded in our optimism" because of the challenges in implementing the political solution contained in the agreement.

The Moro rebel group has been fighting for self-rule for minority Muslims in the predominantly Roman Catholic nation's south. It dropped a demand for a separate Muslim state and now seeks an expansion of an existing Muslim autonomous region and more powers and resources to rehabilitate the violent, poverty-wracked area.

in Ilocos Norte province's Sarrao township. Six others died in a hospital, while four high school students were being treated for injuries. He says six of the dead were students aged 6 to 19 who were on board the minibus, known as a jeepney, a popular mode of transportation in the Philippines. Apostol says the jeepney driver tried to overtake another vehicle and did not immediately notice the oncoming truck.

46 pilot whales stranded in Indonesia, 3 alive

MAUMERE, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesian officials say 46 pilot whales have beached themselves on a southern island. All but three have died. Pramudya Harzani from the nonprofit Jakarta Animal Aid Network activists and local authorities were still trying to rescue the three surviving whales on Tuesday but they kept swimming back to shore. He says he whales washed ashore late Monday in Rajua beach on Sabu, a small islet between Timor and Sumba islands in southern Indonesia. District chief Gidon Bilibora says meat from the dead whales has been taken by locals for food, a common practice in the area.

World

Somalia: Kenyan army says it now controls Kismayo

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Allied African troops have taken full control of Kismayo in Somalia, the last stronghold of Islamist rebels who have been fighting against the country's internationally backed government, a Kenyan military official said Tuesday.

Remnants of the militants, known as al-Shabab, executed seven civilians who did not support them in the southern part of Kismayo on Monday, the Kenyan military said.

Kenya Defense Forces and the Somali National Army are now patrolling the streets

of Kismayo, Kenyan military spokesman Maj. Emmanuel Chirchir said through Twitter. He said that the troops had secured the city's central police station and the new airport. He said military aircraft will start landing there.

Kenyan troops invaded the southern Somali city of Kismayo early Friday, and al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab announced soon after that their forces were leaving the lucrative port town.

After years of bloody street-by-street warfare, African Union troops from Uganda

and Burundi pushed al-Shabab out of Somalia's capital of Mogadishu in August 2011. The AU troops have since taken over towns outside of Mogadishu as well. Kenyan forces invaded Somalia late last year, and have been moving slowly toward Kismayo.

The once-powerful al-Shabab spent years defending its Mogadishu territory, but since being forced out it has chosen to retreat from towns when challenged by African Union forces or Ethiopian troops who moved into western Somalia earlier this year.



Kenyan soldiers pose for their colleagues to take pictures of them as they sing and celebrate outside Kismayo University in Kismayo, southern Somalia Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2012.

Official: Hezbollah fighters killed in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—A Hezbollah commander and several fighters have been killed inside Syria, a Lebanese security official said Tuesday, a development that could stoke already soaring tensions over the Lebanese militant group's role in the civil war next door.

Hezbollah's reputation has taken a beating over its support for the Syrian regime, but any sign that the group's fighters are taking part in the battle raises fears that the conflict could expand into a wider fight

engulfing the region.

Hezbollah has stood by Syrian President Bashar Assad since the uprising began 18 months ago, even after the group supported revolts in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and Bahrain.

Assad's fall would be a dire scenario for Hezbollah. Any new regime led by Syria's majority Sunni Muslims would likely be far less friendly—or even outright hostile—to Shiite Muslim Hezbollah. Iran remains the

group's most important patron, but Syria is a crucial supply route. Without it, Hezbollah will struggle to get money and weapons as easily.

The Syrian uprising has left Assad deeply isolated—making his remaining allies such as Iran and Russia all the more important. At last week's gathering of world leaders at the United Nations, dozens of nations excoriated the Assad regime for its role in a conflict that activists estimate has killed at least 30,000 Syrians.

Smoked salmon blamed for salmonella outbreak

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Smoked salmon tainted with salmonella has sickened hundreds of people in the Netherlands, authorities said, sparking major recalls there and in the U.S.

U.S. health authorities say they are also investigating whether the salmon could be at the root of a multi-state outbreak of the illness.

The Netherlands' National Institute for Public Health and the Environment said the salmon was traced to a Dutch company called Foppen, which sells fish to many major super-

markets in the Netherlands and stores around the world.

In the U.S. Foppen said it only supplied the fish to Costco Wholesale Corp. It did not believe the contaminated fish was sold to any other countries.

The Dutch public health institute said that around 200 people—and likely more—have been sickened in the Netherlands by a strain of the bacteria called Salmonella Thompson.

A representative for the U.S. Centers for Disease and Control Prevention, Lola Russell, says the federal agency has 85 recorded cases of the same

strain from 27 states starting from July 1. Without an outbreak, she said the average number of such cases over that time would be about 30.

"We've investigating a possible link between the cases in the U.S. and cases in the Netherlands," Russell said.

That process entails state public health officials interviewing patients to find out what they may have eaten before they got sick, including the smoked salmon.

Russell said 10 people have been hospitalized, with no deaths.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Ex-Philippine president runs for mayor of Manila

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Ousted Philippine President Joseph Estrada has filed his candidacy for mayor of Manila, joining thousands of candidates in midterm elections that will be dominated by political dynasties, celebrities and the rich and powerful. The polls scheduled for May 13, 2013, illustrate the most obvious streak of Philippine politics: It's a family affair. Among those expected to run again is Imelda Marcos, widow of dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who is among candidates for 286 congressional seats. Her daughter, Imee, will try to keep her seat as governor of their northern home province of Ilocos Norte. Her son, Ferdinand Marcos Jr., is already a senator.

10 dead in road collision in northern Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police say a minibus ferrying students to school has collided with a truck along a northern Philippine highway, killing 10 people. Police investigator John Lay Apostol says four were killed instantly in Tuesday's crash

Focus

CAIRO (AP)—Islamists are seeking to enshrine in Egypt's long-awaited new constitution a number of articles that secularists and liberals fear would bring theocratic rule and severely set back civil liberties, including provisions that could empower clerics to review laws and would stipulate that women's rights cannot violate Shariah law or "family duties."

Liberals and secularists have been struggling to keep out the provisions, but are finding themselves outnumbered and vulnerable to being overruled on the 100-member assembly that is writing the charter meant to set the path for post-revolution Egypt.

The assembly, where Islamists hold a majority, has been debating the constitution over nearly 50 sessions during the past months. But the wrangling has heated up as the body gets closer to voting on a final draft, which would then be put to a yes-or-no referendum by the public, expected by the end of the year. Liberals, however, say they have few tools to block Islamists' demands other than walking out of the assembly—a step they have wavered on taking for fear or losing their voice entirely.

Around 100 women protested against the Islamists' provisions Tuesday outside the upper house of parliament, where the assembly has been holding its sessions. They chanted against a "religious state" and shouted, "Down with the rule of the Brotherhood."

Magda Adly, one rights activist at the gathering, warned of "a constitution that only sees women as tasked to make babies," saying the Islamists' provisions would open the door to dramatically lowering the marriage age for women and ending restrictions on female genital mutilation.

Battles also spilled into the courtroom Tuesday as a Cairo court convened to examine nearly 40 suits calling for the assembly to be disbanded. Lawyers from the two sides pushed and shoved each other in shouting matches that forced the judges to postpone the hearing for a week. If the court eventually orders the assembly disbanded, Islamist President Mohammed Morsi would form the new one, and liberals' have little faith it would be any more favorable to them.

The constitution has been long awaited as a key step in establishing a democracy in Egypt after last year's ouster of autocratic ruler Hosni Mubarak. The uprising that forced Mubarak out was led by progressive, secular activists who rallied public anger over worsening poverty, the monopoly on power by Mubarak's ruling party, rampant corruption and widespread abuses by security and intelligence agencies.

But in the nearly 20 months since, Islamists have emerged as the strongest political power. Morsi, Egypt's first freely elected president, is a veteran figure from the Muslim Brotherhood, which dominated parliamentary elections last year. Also powerful are the ultraconservative Salafis, who call for an even stricter implementation of Islamic Shariah law than the Brotherhood.

The Brotherhood and the main Salafi political party hold at least 52 seats on the constitutional assembly, which was formed by parliament before a court dissolved the legislature. Their majority is further strengthened by Islamists unaligned with parties. The assembly includes eight women, several of them Brotherhood members, and eight Christians.

So far, no articles have been finalized, with negotiations still going on



Islamist-secular struggle over Egypt constitution

within the assembly. The assembly chief says he now expects a final draft to be ready in November, though the timetable has been pushed back repeatedly in past months. The Brotherhood in particular seems to be hoping to reach enough of a consensus within the assembly that it can tout the document as having broad backing.

But with liberal, leftist and secular movements weakened and with little pressure from the public, the Islamists appear confident they can get much of what they seek in a final draft and win approval in a referendum.

"There is a strong sentiment in the street for implementing Shariah," said Sheikh Khaled al-Azhari, a Salafi who sits in the assembly. "Add to that, there is a big difference between talking to people from an air-conditioned office like liberals and between living their lives and knowing their pains."

Al-Azhari, who is also a TV star on a religious channel, said Islamists had one main rule guiding their hand in the constitution: "You can't criminalize what is permitted by Shariah law."

Some parts of the new charter that appear to have consensus so far would set a more democratic system for Egypt, reducing the overwhelming powers that the president has long held and increasing the authorities of parliament.

But a number of articles put forward by Islamists have raised liberals' concerns.

One proposal would establish a pow-

erful political role for Egypt's premier Islamic institution, Al-Azhar, saying the opinion of its top clerics would be "the final or main reference for the state in whatever is related to Shariah law." Some fear that would establish an Iranian-style system where clerics oversee laws passed by parliament. Al-Azhar is generally seen as a moderate body, but conservatives and Salafis have been gaining influence in its ranks.

"Islamists will continue to rule the country through this institution (Al-Azhar) even if they lose elections," the National Front For Justice and Democracy, an independent group monitoring the assembly's deliberations, said in a recent report.

There has been a sharp debate over revising the second article of the previous constitution which says the "principles of Shariah" are the main source of legislation. Many Islamists see that language as too vague and want it changed to "the rulings of Shariah," which they see as providing for a more strict adherence to their interpretation of Islamic law.

In other Islamist-backed articles, women would enjoy equal rights as men as long as they do not "violate Shariah" or "family duties." Islamists also blocked attempts to introduce a clause guaranteeing Egypt's adherence to international treaties it has already joined on ending discrimination against women. They worried that such a clause could be used to ban female

genital mutilation or prevent lowering of the marriage age, which they saw are allowed under Shariah. Some Salafi sheiks have called for allowing girls to be married with the onset of puberty.

Another proposed clause would stipulate that Christians and Jews have the right to abide by their "own religious laws" and choose "their religious leadership," a provision that Islamists say protects minorities. Critics say it contradicts the principles of equal citizenship and enshrines a second-class status.

Another article would recognize the right of Christians and Jews to conduct their rituals and build places of worship, but on the condition they do not "violate public order." That could allow lawmakers to maintain restrictions on the building of churches, since church construction has often prompted sectarian strife in the past.

Other clauses are heavy with vague references to preserving the "morals" and "traditions" of Egyptian society, which critics fear could be used to restrict freedoms of speech and political activity.

"This is a disaster," said leftist politician Hussein Abdel-Razek. "The proposed articles reflect the core of political Islam currents like the Muslim Brotherhood and Salafis. They are autocratic and repressive at heart."

Nehad Aboul-Qomsan, head of the Egyptian Center for Women rights, raised a warning over the rights wom-

en won over the years, saying, "We are losing them now."

Manal el-Tibi, a female activist who was in the assembly, resigned last week in protest over the articles concerning women.

"It has become clear that the constitution is being prepared to emphasize the religious state for a certain group to monopolize power," she wrote in her resignation letter.

El-Tibi is a member of Egypt's Nubian ethnic minority and clashed repeatedly with the assembly over her attempts to include protections against racial discrimination. Other members opposed, insisting Egypt does not have multiple races, and a Muslim Brotherhood member Omar Abdel-Hadi accused el-Tibi of having separatist aspirations and seeking foreign intervention in Egypt, a typical accusation leveled by Islamists and pan-Arabists against their rivals.

The assembly has been plagued with troubles from the start. A first version of the assembly was dominated even more heavily by Islamists, prompting a mass walkout by liberals. That assembly was dissolved by a court that ruled parliament had not followed proper standards in forming it. The parliament then formed the new panel.

"A single political faction has monopolized the constitution writing, while the rest of Egypt was excluded from the process," the National Front for Justice and Democracy said.

AP

Environment

Trash-to-energy plan worries New Delhi ragpickers

By GARETH CONDE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW DELHI (AP)—Leaning on a battered set of scales while flies swarmed his piles of trash, Akbar said he wasn't demanding much: "All I want is continued access to waste."

Akbar is one of an estimated quarter-million people in New Delhi who make their living in the informal world of garbage. While ragpickers go door-to-door collecting and sorting waste, Akbar, a 29-year-old who uses only one name, is a middleman who buys the most valuable trash and resells it to recyclers.

Those whose survival depends on this gray market fear their lives are about to be upended. Where they see money in those mountains of garbage, the New Delhi government sees electricity.

Desperate for cheap energy, the Delhi government is experimenting with power plants fueled by garbage. One plant is running on a trial basis and two more are under construction.

If those plants go online, they would generate enough electricity to power 50,000 homes by burning much of the 8,000

tons of garbage the Indian capital generates each day. That garbage would be hauled from homes and offices by private companies, instead of the networks of ragpickers who came to the city seeking opportunity and found it wheeling pushcarts of garbage through the streets.

Some who recycle 100 kilograms (220 pounds) daily can earn as much as \$6 a day, but most earn about \$4.

Akbar is more of a mogul, with nine collectors who come to him to sell their sifted waste.

"Where others see filth, I see opportunity," he said, proudly surveying the mountains of garbage and swatting flies hovering near his mouth.

City officials declined repeated requests for comment, but have said that the issue of garbage collection was complex and was being studied.

Environmentalists have joined the ragpickers in opposing the trash-to-energy plan, saying incineration is neither clean nor renewable energy.

But for waste pickers, "The single most important thing ... is access to garbage," said Federico Demaria, a researcher working with the All India Khabadi Mazdoor Mahasangh, a group

that represents the ragpickers. "If the (waste-to-energy) plants start burning it, the government is condemning hundreds of thousands of people to unimaginable poverty."

Their lives are already difficult. A ragpicker named Munari and his five illiterate sons collect trash from about 1,700 homes, and must spend much of their earnings on bribes and rent. They live in a cluster of shelters

made from plastic sheeting and corrugated metal near a 70-acre (28-hectare) public landfill site.

"The work is hard and life tough," said Munari, sitting on a small rope bed in front of his hut. But he added that life is better here than it was in his former home in the impoverished state of Bihar.

The ragpickers live a hazy legal existence. They pay bribes for the right to collect the city's

garbage, doing the work that the city's 30,000 official garbage collectors are supposed to do, but don't, confident that the government won't bother to try to fire them.

Akbar's home and office is in a brick building surrounded by piles of paper, plastic and glass 10 feet high (3 meters high). He points to a rusty tricycle loaded with plastic bottles and grins with the brashness of a Wall

Street broker.

Trash is "like our gold," he said. "The prices are changing all the time, so we have to monitor the situation and cash in at the peak."

While he enjoys his smartphone and clean clothes, he doesn't know what he or the thousands of other residents of the poor Seemapuri neighborhood will do if the new plants go into operation.

FTC issues revised green marketing guidelines

WASHINGTON (AP)—Expect to see fewer products pitched as "environmentally friendly" if the government has its way.

Hoping to limit the number of deceptive claims, the Federal Trade Commission on Monday released an updated version of its green marketing guidelines that hold companies to truthful standards in marketing their products.

The revision to the Green Guides is the first since 1998, when phrases like "carbon offset" and "renewable energy" were not widely used.

The revisions include some changes to the proposed guidelines that the FTC circulated in October 2010 and reflect input from consumers and indus-

try groups. New sections address the use of carbon offsets, "green" certifications and seals, and renewable energy and renewable materials claims.

Among the updates, the guides warn marketers not to make broad, unqualified claims that their products are environmentally friendly or eco-friendly.

The FTC said "very few products, if any" deliver the far-reaching environmental benefits that consumers associate with such claims, which it says are nearly impossible to substantiate anyway.

The guides also:

■ Advise marketers not to make an unqualified degradable claim for a solid waste product

unless they can prove that the entire product or package will completely break down and return to nature within a year after customary disposal.

■ Caution that items destined for landfills, incinerators, or recycling facilities will not degrade within a year, so marketers should not make unqualified degradable claims for these items.

■ Clarify guidance on compostable, ozone, recyclable, recycled content, and source reduction claims.

The revised guidelines also outline how marketers can qualify their claims to avoid deceiving consumers.

They do not address use of

the terms "sustainable," "natural" and "organic." The FTC said that's because it may lack a basis to provide meaningful guidance, or it wants to avoid proposing guidance that duplicates or contradicts that of other agencies.

The Green Guides are not rules or regulations but general principles that describe the types of environmental claims the agency may find deceptive. The FTC has imposed fines and taken other actions in recent years involving deceptive recyclability, biodegradable and environmental certification claims.

FTC Chairman Jon Leibowitz said the changes will level the field for honest business people.

Funeral Announcement

Franklin Dela Cruz Iglecias (Ankie Boy)

Born on March 6, 1985 and was called to eternal rest on September 17, 2012 at 7:15am in Wishard Memorial Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana.

In his new life, he will now be joining our dearly departed loved ones:

Grandparents: Domingo C. & Lourdes P. Dela Cruz

Grandfather: Estanislao Palacios

Our angels: Juan Dela Cruz Iglecias

Anna Maria B. Iglecias

His loving memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Parents: Francisco Manglona Iglecias

Elizabeth Dela Cruz Iglecias

Grandparents: David S. & Matilde I. Celis

Merced S. Palacios

Siblings: Kalani Dela Cruz Iglecias

George Dela Cruz Iglecias & Willina Borja (Noah & Micah)

Byron Dela Cruz Iglecias & Ayessa Tereyama (Scott & Elli-Lou)

Matilde Dela Cruz Iglecias

Vince Dela Cruz Iglecias & Doris Castro (Colin Frank)

Travis Dela Cruz Iglecias & Macy Agoun (Aleina)

Daily mass is offered at 6:00pm at San Antonio Church.

On Thursday, October 4, 2012 the body will arrive at 3:05PM and will be escorted to Borja's Funeral Home.

On Friday, October 5, 2012 at 7:30AM, our beloved's remains

will be escorted from Borja's Funeral Home to San

Antonio Church for viewing and last respects.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at

11:00AM followed by interment service at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your kind expressions of support and prayers are greatly appreciated.

**Frank M. & Liz DLC. Iglecias
and Family**

First Death Anniversary

*In Loving Memory
of our Beloved*

†Margarita Palacios Agulto Retan

We the children, invite all our family and friends to join us in prayer as we commemorate the anniversary of our Beloved Mother and Grandmother into eternal life.

Nightly Mass is being offered at 6:00pm at San Vicente Church beginning Wednesday, October 3, 2012 until October 11th, 2012.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

*From
The Children and Grandchildren*

Life & Style

David Blaine goes high voltage with latest stunt

By ALICIA RANCILIO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—David Blaine is spending the days leading up to his next stunt lying low.

"I'll mostly be relaxing, meditating and playing with my daughter ... and trying not to deprive myself of sleep," the illusionist said at a Tuesday press conference after demonstrating the stunt at low voltage.

He will need the rest. Beginning Friday, Blaine will spend three days and three nights standing in the middle of a million volts of electric currents streamed by tesla coils.

The feat is called "Electrified: One Million Volts Always On" and will take place at Pier 54 on New York's West Side. It will be open to the public, and spectators can type messages to Blaine, control the electricity around him and



This Oct. 13, 2008 file photo shows David Blaine attending a Cinema Society and Dolce Gabbana hosted special screening of "Filt and Wisdom" in New York.

basically help keep him alert.

"Electrified" also will be streamed on YouTube, thanks to computing company Intel. Viewing stations will be located in

London, Beijing, Tokyo and Sydney. Viewers at the stations also will be able to control the coils.

Blaine, who said he lives near-by, joked that he hopes to walk

home after it is all over.

Safety is a bigger concern now that Blaine is a father. He has a 20-month-old daughter.

For the stunt, the 39-year-old will wear a chainmail bodysuit as a barrier between himself and the electric currents. He will have a wire helmet on, a visor to shield his eyes, and hearing protection for his ears. The air he is breathing will be monitored.

Blaine won't be able to eat but will have a tube for water in and another tube for water out, so to speak. Because he is fasting for days beforehand, he doesn't expect any other bodily waste.

"I don't know how I could ever top this," he said. "This is an overly-ambitious idea, and I'm literally shocked that it came together. This is one of the craziest things that I ever dreamed up, and I don't know how I could go beyond it."

Stewart and O'Reilly get ready to 'Rumble'

By JAKE COYLE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—One is from Fox News, the other Comedy Central. They might as well be the Capulets and the Montagues.

But despite their opposing sides on the political spectrum, something almost like—gasp!—friendship has evolved between Bill O'Reilly and Jon Stewart. The two have frequently appeared on each other's shows, exhibiting actual respect for the other's views.

On Saturday, Stewart and O'Reilly will square off in a mock debate in Washington, D.C., to be streamed online for \$4.95, with half the proceeds going to charity. As the two prepare for the clash in their respective corners—the event has been dubbed "The Rumble in the Air-Conditioned Auditorium"—Stewart and O'Reilly took a moment to reflect on their unique relationship.



This Sept. 22, 2010 file photo shows Comedy Central's Jon Stewart from "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," left, and political pundit Bill O'Reilly during an interview for "The O'Reilly Factor" on FOX News Channel, in New York.

"I think he idolizes me secretly and that's what it's all about," says O'Reilly.

Stewart, in turn, compares them to "The Princess and the Pea."

"And I'm going to go with me as the pea," he says.

But both, in separate phone interviews, also quickly follow those descriptions with praise. O'Reilly calls the "Daily Show" host "a good guy" and "very talented."

When it was suggested that their relationship is one based

on both mutual respect and mutual disgust, Stewart laughs but says: "I enjoy talking to the guy. I find him very entertaining. He's got a good sense of humor. He's smart. I think he comes by his views honestly. I can't say I agree with him."

Day: 'Twilight' fans migrating to erotic romance

By LAURI NEFF
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—Bestselling novelist Sylvia Day says sales of her "Crossfire" series and other erotic romance novels are on the rise in part because of maturing fans of the "Twilight Saga" young adult romance books.

In a Monday interview to promote the release of "Reflected in You," the second of her "Crossfire" trilogy, Day said, "I think a lot of those readers are growing up and are looking for the next step in a romance story, a little bit more sex, a little bit more conflict, and they're migrating

from that into contemporary erotic romance."

Day said the move makes sense to her.

"It's emotional resonance that they're looking for in a story," she said. "So when you read something like 'Twilight' with life-and-death stakes, they want to move forward into an adult read that has that same sort of conflict level, and they're finding that mostly in erotic romance."

The author, who is about to assume the presidency of The Romance Writers of America, said she and fellow romance novelists are happy that interest in E.L. James' "Fifty Shades" trilogy also is creating new

fans of the genre. But she said they're a little amused at the sudden media attention.

"I actually get the impression from it that most of the press is surprised that women read erotic fiction when it's been around for a very long time," she said. "... Once they caught on to it and started promoting it and publicizing it; you can't avoid it now. It's everywhere."

James last year self-published "Fifty Shades of Grey," about billionaire Christian Grey and Anastasia Steele. Day, already an established romance writer, launched her erotic trilogy about billionaire Gideon Cross and Eva Tramell. Day says sim-

ilarities in the stories should not surprise people already familiar with the genre because "the tortured millionaire hero" is a romance staple that has been around for decades.

"Reflected in You," which debuted at No. 1 on Amazon's Kindle Book bestseller list with its e-book release Tuesday, continues to follow the daily lives of Gideon and Eva, who share similar traumatic histories. Day describes the series as "an everyday struggle for two people who found the person they want to spend their life with — how to change long-established survival mechanisms so that they can live together happily."

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Sunday	1:25	7:25	
Monday thru Thursday		7:25	

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Hotel Transylvania 2D

Friday	4:25
Saturday	4:25
Sunday	4:25
Monday thru Thursday	4:25

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

DREDD 3D

Friday		7:15	9:45
Saturday	1:15	7:15	9:45
Sunday	1:15	7:15	
Monday thru Thursday		7:15	

Cast: Karl Urban, Olivia Thirlby, Lena Headey
Genre: Science fiction, Action • Rated R

Trouble With The Curve

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:40
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:40
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Monday thru Thursday		4:05	7:05	

Cast: Clint Eastwood, Amy Adams
Genre: Drama • Rated PG13

House At The End Of The Street

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Monday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Cast: Jennifer Lawrence, Elisabeth Shue
Genre: Thriller • Rated PG13

DREDD 2D

Friday	4:15
Saturday	4:15
Sunday	4:15
Monday thru Thursday	4:15

Cast: Karl Urban, Olivia Thirlby, Lena Headey
Genre: Science fiction, Action • Rated R

Finding Nemo 3D

Friday		7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:00	7:00	
Monday thru Thursday		7:00	

Cast: Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres
Genre: Children's/family • Rated G

Resident Evil: Retribution 2D

Friday		4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Monday thru Thursday		4:30	7:30	

Cast: Milla Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez
Action • Rated R

Finding Nemo 2D

Friday	4:00
Saturday	4:00
Sunday	4:00
Monday thru Thursday	4:00

Cast: Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres
Genre: Children's/family • Rated G

The Odd Life of Timothy Green

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:35
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:35
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Monday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Cast: Jennifer Garner, Joel Edgerton
Genre: Comedy, Drama, Fantasy • Rated PG

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New Zealand bars Mike Tyson as tour debacle looms

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—In a reversal, New Zealand authorities on Wednesday barred Mike Tyson from entering the country whose indigenous Maori people Tyson says inspired his facial tattoo.

And a Downunder speaking tour for the former heavyweight boxing champion was threatening to fall apart altogether as Australian immigration authorities said they've yet to decide whether to allow him into that country. Tickets for appearances in New Zealand and five major Australian cities in November are still being promoted by a Sydney agency.

Tyson's 1992 rape conviction would normally prevent his entry in New Zealand and could be grounds for denial in Australia as well. He had been granted an exemption for New Zealand before that visa was cancelled Wednesday, days after the prime minister spoke out against the visit.

Tyson was to speak at a November event in Auckland, the "Day of the Champions," which is being promoted by Sydney agency Markson Sparks!

New Zealand's Associate Immigration Minister Kate Wilkinson said she'd initially granted entry because a children's health charity would get some of the proceeds from Tyson's speech. She said in a state-



In this Sept. 12, 2012 file photo, former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson speaks a press conference at the 19th Credit Lyonnais Securities Asia (CLSA) investors Forum at a hotel in Hong Kong.

ment her decision was "a finely balanced call" but that the charity that would have benefited, the Life Education Trust, withdrew its support Tuesday.

"Given that the trust is no longer supporting the event, on balance, I have made the decision to cancel his visa," Wilkinson wrote in her statement.

The charity's chief executive, John O'Connell, however, said the charity long ago decided not to accept any money from the event due to its concerns over Tyson's character, but that a volunteer trustee had mistakenly sent a letter to immigration authorities supporting Tyson's plans.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for Australia's Department of Im-

migration and Citizenship said "I can tell you that a decision is still pending" on Tyson's application for an Australian visa.

Tyson's criminal history could prevent him from obtaining an Australian visa. Would-be visitors normally must pass a character test. Those with a "substantial criminal record"—which by the immigration department's definition includes people who, like Tyson, have been sentenced to more than a year in prison—would fail the test. But the department can still use its discretion to grant a visa.

Markson Sparks! has been advertising tickets for Tyson's Australian appearances at between 69 and 300 Australian

\$10,000 in musical instruments.

"Any kind of specific instrument that can be purchased to bring music alive for these students will go a long way," Boston Public School spokesman Matt Wilder said.

Swift is releasing her fourth studio album, "Red," on Oct. 22.

many of the votes were from pranksters who thought it would be funny for the school to win a concert.

Swift said every student will receive a ticket to her next local concert. She and the contest sponsors also donated \$50,000 to the school, and VH1's Save the Music program donated

US deaf school gets Swift tickets after prank

BOSTON (AP)—Taylor Swift is giving \$10,000 and concert tickets to a U.S. school for the deaf after a prank during an online contest promising an on-campus performance by the Grammy-winning singer.

Horace Mann School for the Deaf in Boston was disqualified from the contest because

Dave Grohl says Foo Fighters are taking a break

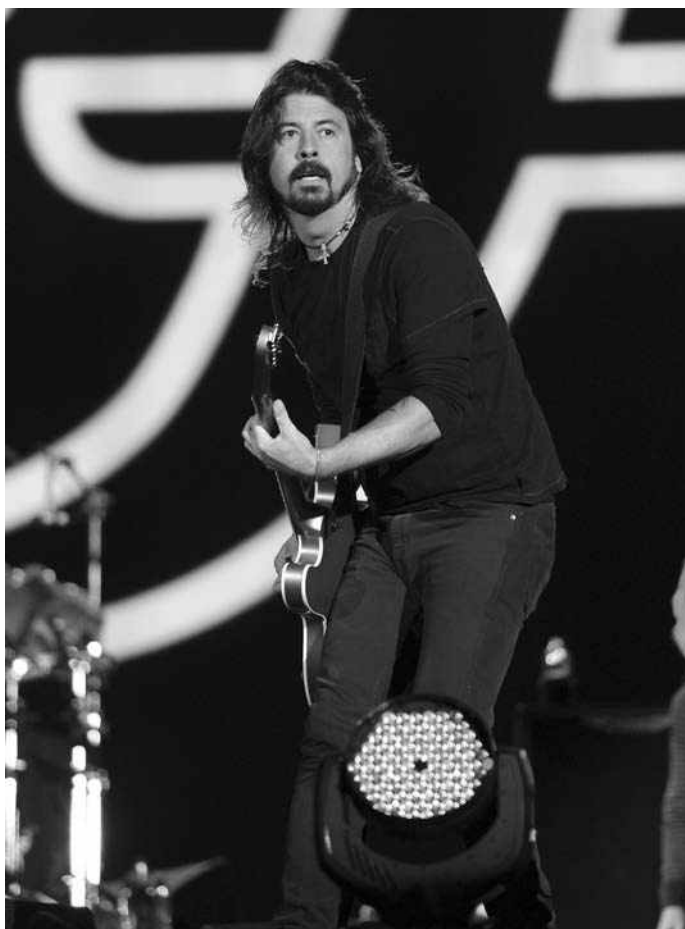
NEW YORK (AP)—Dave Grohl says his band Foo Fighters is officially taking a break.

Grohl sent an open letter Tuesday, calling the band "my life," but noting "it's a good thing for all of us to go away for a while."

Grohl told fans Saturday at the Global Citizen Festival he didn't know when the band would play together again, and affirmed that in the letter.

He created Foo Fighters in 1994 after his time as the drummer in Nirvana, recording the band's self-titled debut before inviting other members to join. The band has been one of rock 'n' roll's most enduring critical and commercial successes, winning 11 Grammys, including five earlier this year.

Grohl says he's now focused on his forthcoming Sound City documentary and album.



Musician Dave Grohl and the Foo Fighters perform at the Global Citizen Festival in Central Park on Saturday Sept. 29, 2012 in New York.

dollars (\$71 and \$308).

Colorful promoter Max Markson said he'd been "hoping it might be a smoother run with Mike Tyson" but that he remained confident Australia would grant Tyson a visa and that New Zealand would reverse its decision when he found another suitable charity.

"He'll only be in the country for 20 hours, I don't think he's a danger to anybody, and thousands of people want to see him," Markson said of Tyson's planned New Zealand leg.

Markson said he's continuing to sell tickets to the planned speeches in both countries and that buyers will get a full refund if the shows are cancelled. He said he had immigration lawyers in Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. working on the case.

Speaking to the APNZ news agency this week from Las Vegas before his New Zealand visa was cancelled, Tyson said his tattoo was inspired by those worn by New Zealand's indigenous Maori. In pre-European times, many Maori wore elaborate facial tattoos as a sign of their status in their tribe. Some Maori today who identify strongly with their traditional culture get similar tattoos.

Tyson told the agency that, aside from their tattoos, he knew little about the Maori people "so I'm looking forward to come down there and see them."

Prime Minister John Key spoke to media against the planned visit this week, questioning the decision by immigration authorities and saying he personally disapproved of the visit given Tyson's conviction for such a serious crime.

Man told 'Dr. Phil' he didn't murder Texas woman

HOUSTON (AP)—A man who taped an interview for the "Dr. Phil" show days before police say he confessed to killing his ex-girlfriend in Houston and then dumping her body hundreds of miles away in a West Texas oil field told the TV personality he didn't murder the woman.

Mark Augustin Castellano has been charged with murder in last month's slaying of 31-year-old Michelle Warner.

Police say Castellano confessed on Sunday, two days after taping an interview with "Dr. Phil" host Phil McGraw.

In a clip released by the show Tuesday, McGraw asks "Did you kill her?"

Castellano replies, "No sir."

Castellano also denied hiding Warner's body. The interview will air Thursday.

Police say Castellano drove Warner's body from Houston to West Texas before burying it in a ditch near Midland.

Wife is crushed to learn man doesn't want more children

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I had been single a long time when I married a wonderful man, "Edgar," who had custody of his two children. After we had dated awhile, he told me about his vasectomy. He said he and his wife had agreed not to have any more children. As our relationship progressed, Edgar told me he would have the vasectomy reversed if I wanted to have children—which I said I definitely did. After two years of marriage, I finally brought up the subject.

Edgar then informed me he didn't want to reverse the operation. He said he couldn't handle having another child. Abby, I am crushed. I thought Edgar loved me enough to give me children out of our union and love. I love his children and wouldn't favor our children over his.

I would never consider leaving Edgar over this, but I don't know if I can ever forgive him for deceiving me and leading me on. My husband has denied me the children he knew I so desperately wanted.

Abby, I urge couples who may find themselves in a similar situation to be honest with each other before they marry.

CHILDLESS AND HEARTBROKEN

DEAR CHILDLESS AND HEARTBROKEN: Many churches—and some states—now encourage couples who are considering marriage to go through prenuptial counseling to ensure compatibility. I'm all for it. If both parties are honest with each other, it could prevent a world of heartache down the line.

You have my condolences for the children you and Edgar will never have together. While you would never leave him, his dishonesty is grounds for an annulment of the marriage.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am 13 and have a problem with my friend "Will." He transferred to my school last year, and I seem to be his only friend. It has become a problem because I have other friends I like to hang out with.

Will is not a good "people" person. He's hard to have around when I have parties, and he constantly interrupts me when I'm trying to talk to other kids. He just doesn't know the right things to say. Also, he comes from a very wealthy family, and sometimes makes sick jokes about middle-class people. This has offended me and some of my friends.

Will is obsessed with politics and likes to strike up debates with me over petty issues. It's really annoying. His obsession with politics makes people think he's a geek. He really can be sometimes, but he's also a nice guy.

My main problem is that at lunch he follows me around when I go to talk to my other friends. When I move to another part of the table, he moves, too -- right across from me -- so I can't talk without him butting in. He's like a maggot sticking to me!

I wish he could find some other friends and not hang out with me all the time. I like him as a person, but what can I do to make him stop following me?

BUGGED IN CHATHAM, N.J.

DEAR BUGGED: Level with him privately and tell him exactly what you have told me. You would be doing him a kindness. Explain to him that while you like him, you also need to spend time with your other friends -- and to please make other seating arrangements a couple of days a week. That way, you're not cutting him off completely.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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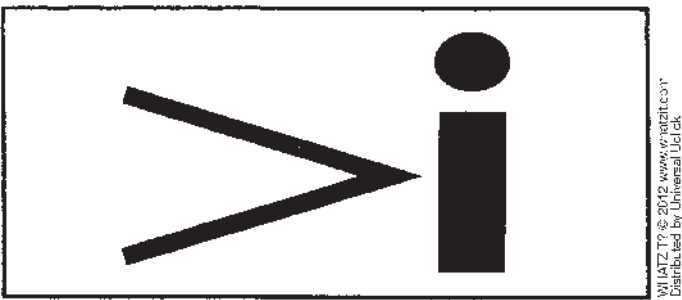
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Cardinals claim last postseason berth



ST. LOUIS
(AP)—The St. Louis Cardinals

clinched baseball's final postseason berth Tuesday night when the Los Angeles Dodgers lost to San Francisco.

The defending World Series champions were beaten by Cincinnati 3-1 but wrapped up the second NL wild card hours later when the Giants won 4-3 at Dodger Stadium. St. Louis will play at Atlanta on Friday in the new one-game playoff between wild-card teams.

The Dodgers' loss left them two games behind St. Louis with one game to go. The Cardinals will be at Atlanta on Friday in a one-game matchup to see which team advances to the division round.

Giants 4, Dodgers 3

In Los Angeles, the Angeles Dodgers were eliminated from playoff contention, their wild-card hopes dashed Tuesday night with a 4-3 loss to Barry Zito and the San Francisco Giants.

The defeat left the Dodgers two games behind St. Louis with only one game left in the regular season. Los Angeles had won six in a row to stay in the race for the second NL wild-card spot, but Mark Ellis lined out to center field with a runner on second base to end it.

Marlins 4, Mets 3, 11 innings

In Miami, New York Mets knuckleballer R.A. Dickey struck out one-shot wonder Adam Greenberg, but also gave up two homers in his final start of a Cy Young-hopeful season and the Mets lost to the Marlins.

The Marlins' Greenberg struck out on three pitches against Dickey when he batted for the first time in seven years in the sixth inning. Greenberg signed a one-day contract before the game, his first since he was beamed in his major league debut in 2005.

Donovan Solano hit a game-winning, bases-loaded one-out single off Collin McHugh (0-4).

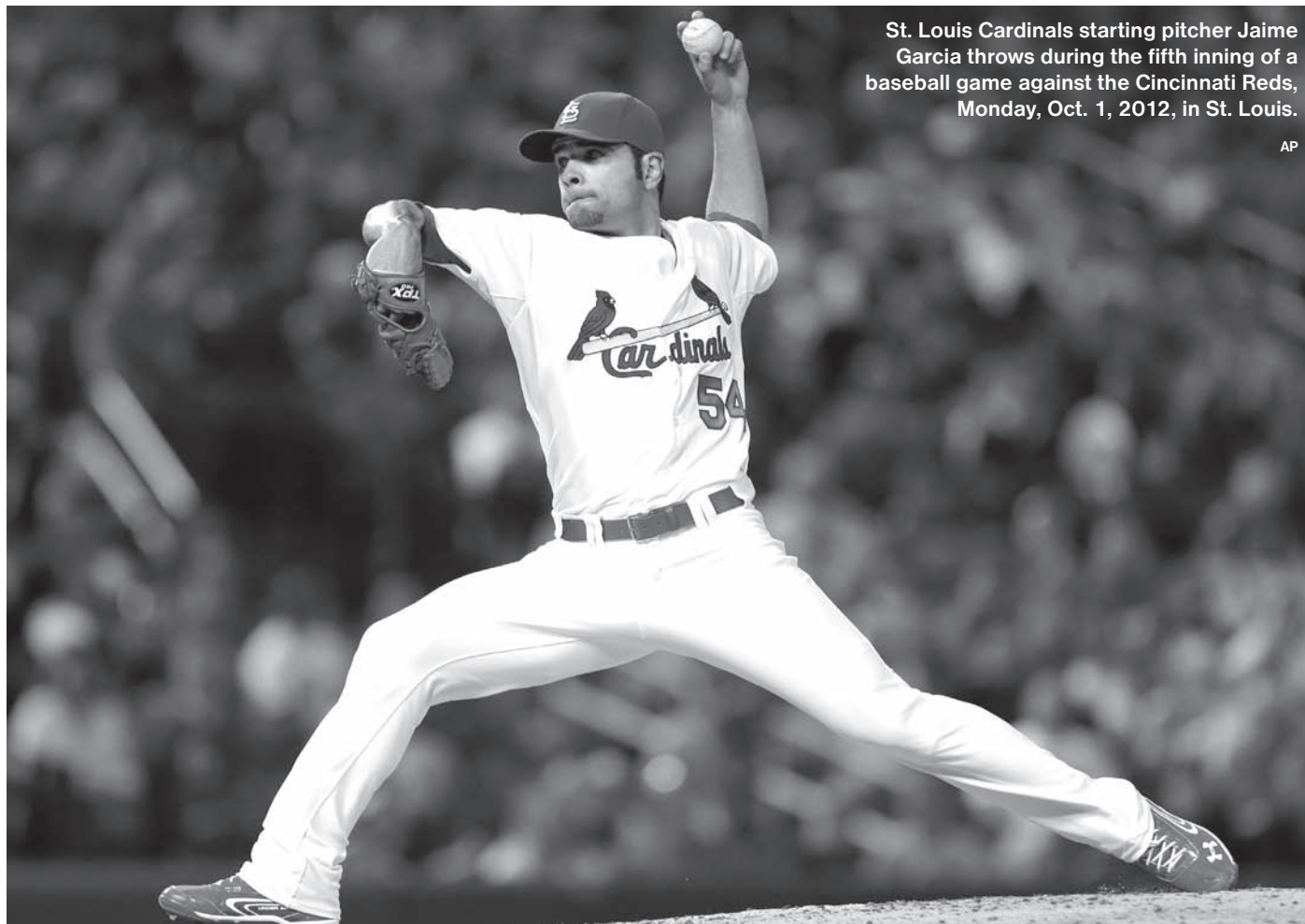
Nationals 4, Phillies 2

In Washington, a smile crept across Adam LaRoche's face while he rounded the bases Tuesday night after hitting his career-high 33rd homer to become the third Nationals player with 100 RBIs in a season, another celebratory moment for NL East champion Washington during a victory over the Phillies.

When the Nationals Park gates opened, early-arriving fans in the crowd of 33,546 were treated to a video montage of alcohol-spraying and general mirth-making from a night earlier, when the home team clinched its first division title since moving from Montreal in 2005.

Pirates 5, Braves 1

In Pittsburgh, Kevin Correia pitched effectively into the seventh inning, Garrett Jones homered and the Pirates won consec-



St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Jaime Garcia throws during the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, in St. Louis.

AP

utive games for the first time in four weeks, beating the Braves.

The Pirates (79-82) tied for their most wins in a season since their North American major professional sports record streak of 20 losing seasons began in 1993. The 1999 Pirates went 79-83.

A day after being eliminated from the NL East division title race, the wild-card Braves rested several regulars and shuffled players in and out of the lineup throughout the game.

Astros 3, Cubs 0

In Chicago, Bud Norris pitched six shutout innings, Jason Castro homered and the Astros beat the Cubs in a matchup of 100-loss teams.

The season-ending series be-

tween NL Central clubs marks the first meeting of 100-loss team in the majors since 1962, when the Cubs played the New York Mets.

Houston (55-106) threw its third straight shutout and won for the fifth time in six games. The Astros have already matched last year's franchise-worst loss total with one game left.

Norris (7-13) scattered four hits and won back-to-back starts for the first time since May.

Diamondbacks 5, Rockies 3

In Phoenix, facing Colorado Rockies closer Rafael Betancourt with two outs in the bottom of the ninth, Arizona Diamondbacks second

baseman Aaron Hill guessed fastball and was rewarded.

Not that Hill did anything different than normal.

"I'm always waiting for a fastball," Hill said after his game-winning three-run home run off Betancourt lifted the Diamondbacks to a 5-3 victory over the Rockies. "You live by the sword, you die by the sword."

Brewers 4, Padres 3

In Milwaukee, Brewers manager Ron Roenicke played 10 rookies Tuesday night. One of them made quite a splash.

Martin Maldonado hit a grand slam to lead Milwaukee to a 4-3 victory over the San Diego Padres.

"I thought we had a Nashville Sounds game," Maldonado said with a big smile, referring to the Brewers' Triple-A team in the Pacific Coast League.

Yankees 4, Red Sox 3

In New York, Raul Ibanez tied it with a pinch-hit homer in the ninth inning then had an RBI single in the 12th, helping the Yankees remain a game up on Baltimore in the AL East with one game to go by beating the Boston Red Sox, 4-3.

With a second comeback spurred by Ibanez in the last 10 days, the Yankees need a win or Orioles loss on the final day of the season to secure their 13th division title since 1996. The Orioles

beat Tampa Bay 1-0 earlier.

Orioles 1, Rays 0

In St. Petersburg, Chris Davis homered for the sixth straight game and the Orioles overcame a club-record 15 strikeouts by James Shields to beat the Rays, pushing the AL East race to the final day of the season.

Baltimore trails the New York Yankees by one game.

Orioles rookie Miguel Gonzalez (9-4) limited the Rays to two singles over 6 1-3 innings.

Athletics 3, Rangers 1

In Oakland, Travis Blackley allowed one run over six innings in a strong bounce-back performance that helped the Athletics move into a first-place tie in the AL West with Texas and set up a one-game showdown for the division title.

A night after holding a raucous celebration after clinching their first playoff berth since 2006, the A's erased the last piece of what had been a 13-game deficit in the division race on June 30 to take a share of first place for the first time since March 29.

Royals 4, Tigers 2

In Kansas City, Miguel Cabrera had two hits and drove in two runs before leaving in the fifth inning, and the Royals rallied to beat his AL Central champion Tigers.

With one game remaining in the regular season, Cabrera leads the American League in average (.331), home runs (44) and RBIs (139), putting him on the brink of becoming the first Triple Crown winner since Boston's Carl Yastrzemski in 1967.

Indians 4, White Sox 3, 12 innings

In Cleveland, Jason Donald singled home the winning run with two outs in the 12th inning, lifting the Indians over the White Sox.

Lonnie Chisenhall doubled with one out against Matt Thornton (4-10), who then intentionally walked Russ Canzler.

Blue Jays 4, Twins 3

In Toronto, Chad Jenkins earned his first major league win, Kelly Johnson hit a two-run home run and the Blue Jays beat the Twins.

Making his third career start, Jenkins (1-3) allowed two runs and five hits in five-plus innings. The right-hander walked one and struck out two.

Mariners 6, Angels 1

In Seattle, Kyle Seager became the first Seattle batter to hit 20 home runs in a season since 2009 with a solo shot in the first inning and the Mariners beat Mike Trout and the Angels.

The penultimate game of the season came a night after the Angels were eliminated from the AL wild card chase. And they played like a team with nothing tangible left to play for, tying their season high with three errors, including a pair in the sixth inning by right fielder Mark Trumbo that helped two runs score.

Tigers' Cabrera in pursuit of Triple Crown

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Miguel Cabrera sat in front of his locker in the corner of the visiting clubhouse at Kauffman Stadium on Tuesday, bantering in Spanish at a table full of teammates.

There were no television cameras hovering over him. No microphones stuck in his face. None of the commotion that could be reasonably expected as the soft-spoken Detroit Tigers slugger closes in on baseball's first Triple Crown in 45 years.

"The entire baseball world should be here right now," said Justin Verlander, the reigning AL MVP and Cy Young Award winner. "We've got, sorry to say, the regular guys."

"I think he's been relatively under the radar for what he's doing, for what he's doing. It hasn't happened in 40-some years," Verlander continued, his voice rising. "It kind of an-

noys me. I don't know about anybody else. I don't know about him. It probably doesn't annoy him."

It certainly doesn't annoy Cabrera, who will politely answer just about any question posed to him, but would just as soon spend his time hanging out with his buddies.

The perfect example came Monday night, shortly after Cabrera had four hits and a home run in a 6-3 victory over the Royals that clinched the AL Central. He was asked about contributing so much to another division title, and Cabrera deflected the attention back on his teammates.

"We got it done with the first one," he said quietly. "That was our goal."

Now, though, the spotlight shifts squarely to the broad shoulders of Cabrera, who started at third base in Tuesday night's 4-2 loss at Kansas City.

He had a pair of singles and drove in two runs in his first two at-bats before flying out to right and leaving the game in the fifth inning.

Cabrera leads the American League in batting average (.331), homers (44) and RBIs (139) - the Triple Crown, last achieved by Boston's Carl Yastrzemski in 1967.

Angels rookie Mike Trout and Twins catcher Joe Mauer are giving chase for the batting title, which Cabrera won last year, while Rangers slugger Josh Hamilton trails him by a single home run.

Maybe the home run mark is why Cabrera was in the starting lineup.

Rather than sit on the bench and watch things play out - by doing so, likely locking up the batting title - Cabrera told manager Jim Leyland that he wanted to play. And he didn't want to be the designated hit-

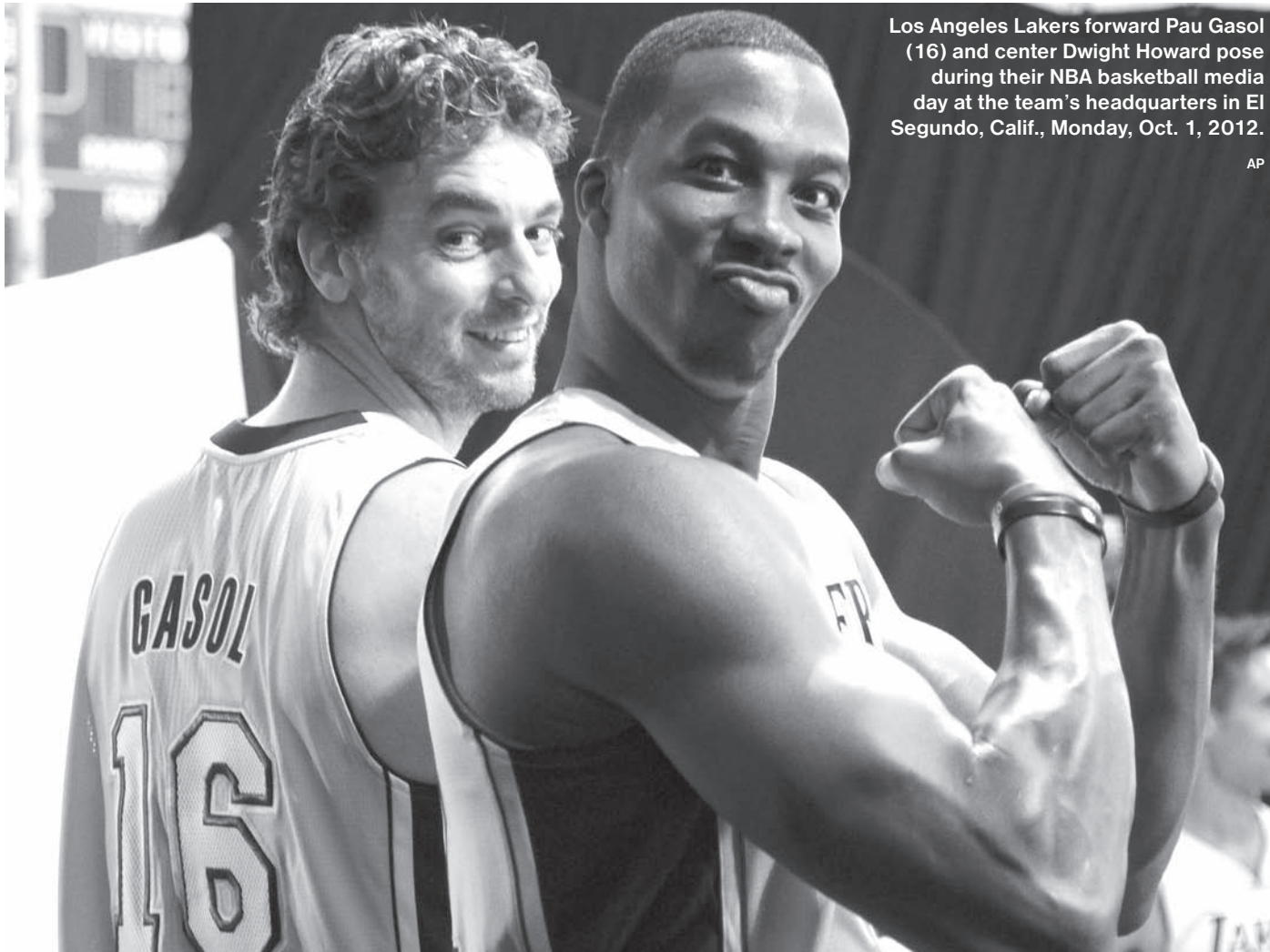
ter, either. He wanted to play just as he has all season.

"It's a big thing," Leyland said, "and it should be a big thing, and it really hasn't gotten away from what we're trying to accomplish, and now you feel more at ease talking about it."

There are plenty of other people willing to contribute to the conversation, even if Leyland and Verlander believe there should be more. Old-timers who never thought they'd see another Triple Crown winner have piped in, as have those who remain close to the game.

"It's just extremely difficult to do, to be the complete hitter, to be a run-producer in terms of RBIs, to be a power hitter in terms of home runs, and then lead the league in average," Royals manager Ned Yost said. "I don't know when the next time is we'll see it happen."

Howard participates in Lakers' first practice



Los Angeles Lakers forward Pau Gasol (16) and center Dwight Howard pose during their NBA basketball media day at the team's headquarters in El Segundo, Calif., Monday, Oct. 1, 2012.

AP

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—Dwight Howard participated in his first practice with the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday, going through a lengthy workout with no apparent concerns about his surgically repaired back.

Howard worked out with the Lakers' new starting five during much of the afternoon practice at the Lakers' training complex, running offensive drills with Steve Nash and playing a little 1-on-1 against Pau Gasol. After finishing up the workout with drills in the Lakers' new Princeton-inflected offense, he got a few quick pointers from Kobe Bryant.

Howard's performance was encouraging to the Lakers, who are being careful with their new franchise center five months after surgery to repair a herniated disc in his back.

"I didn't surprise myself," Howard said. "I've been working hard to get on the court. I want to continue to work hard, (and) we haven't had any setbacks, so I want to continue to do whatever I can to get on the court."

The six-time All-Star center hasn't committed to any timetable for his debut with the Lakers, who acquired him in a four-team trade in August. The Lakers already have announced

Howard won't play in their first preseason game in Fresno against Golden State on Sunday night, but Howard sounds determined to suit up with his teammates at some point before the regular season opener Oct. 30 against Dallas.

"Hopefully I'll be back for some preseason games," Howard said. "I think we're going to need it for chemistry and all that stuff, but like I said, I'm not going to rush. I'm going to continue to practice. We've had some great practices. Today was really good, so I'm happy."

The Lakers' second exhibition is in Ontario, Calif., on Oct. 10 against Portland.

Howard has been working out six days a week at the Lakers' training complex to prepare for the season under the watch of the club's medical staff and his own team.

The results are promising to his teammates, who were impressed by Howard's fitness in his first team action. Howard participated in three-on-three, two-on-two and one-on-one drills with the Lakers, who didn't run any drills with serious contact or 5-on-5 scrimmages.

"He worked just as much as anybody else, so that was good," Gasol said. "I didn't expect that to happen today. ... He's a great player, a tremen-

dous force, and it feels good to have him here."

Howard knows the Lakers have plenty of work to do if they hope to grasp the new offensive concepts being installed by veteran assistant coach Eddie Jordan. Bryant, who already sees Howard picking up the offense, is grateful to see evidence of

Howard's work ethic in his first day.

"It was very beneficial," Bryant said. "Even though he can't really do anything that's contact-related, he's still able to go through all the drills offensively, and the schemes we want to do, and kind of work through the Princeton offense, so it was very productive."

NHL defines preseason losses as lockout continues



NEW YORK (AP)—The financial losses are starting to pile up as a result of the NHL lockout.

And on Tuesday, the league made that public.

In speaking to reporters after talks finished up for the day between the NHL and the NHLPA, Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly estimated that the league has lost \$100 million in revenues from the canceled preseason.

"Today," he said, "was not overly encouraging."

And though they can pick up at any time, for the moment, there are no further talks scheduled. That only further increases speculation that regular-season games could be lost, with an announcement sometime this week. The season was slated to begin Oct. 11.

"We are closer by definition (to canceling regular season games)," Daly said. "We are focused on minimizing the damage."

Tuesday's bargaining session focused on the definition of hockey-related revenue, and featured NHLPA head Donald Fehr, his brother, Steve, the special counsel to the players' association, and Winnipeg Jets defenseman Ron Hainsey.

"They have made some incremental moves," said Donald Fehr, who expects to informally talk with NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman by Wednesday. "It's clear that the players have made substantial moves towards the owners and the owners have made substantial moves away from the players."

As there has been throughout the process, there is still a glaring difference in opinion.

"We're looking for a long-term deal that's fair to the players, league and fans," Daly said. "Certainly, we're trying to be as creative as (we can be)."

Donald Fehr did not dispute Daly's figure of \$100 million, saying "it might be a revenue number." He did note, though, that it could be a loss without factoring in arena operating costs. Meanwhile, Steve Fehr disputed the notion that no progress had been made.

"I don't know (that) I would agree with (that) phrase," he said. "Talks can resume anytime they're ready."

Daly, in an email to the Associated Press, said the league

has not projected potential damage caused by the cancellation of any regular-season games. Clearly, the hope is that it won't have to address that matter, but the clock is ticking.

"What we have repeatedly tried to communicate is that we need to hear from them to move this process along," Daly wrote in the email. "And we do think that's the only thing that is going to allow us to gain traction. But that doesn't mean we stop everything we're doing and simply wait around for a proposal."

"If there is something we feel we can do to move the process forward, I'm sure we won't hesitate to do it."

According to Daly, the sides met for close to two hours Tuesday. One aspect that could expedite the negotiations moving forward - perhaps next week - is mediation. And both sides acknowledged that possibility has been broached.

"I've had that discussion with Gary, briefly," Donald Fehr said. "There hasn't been further discussion. We're not averse to help."

In the meantime, media outlets are making plans to keep fans happy during yet another stoppage. On Tuesday, Russia's Kontinental Hockey League announced it will broadcast games in the United States on ESPN3. It plans to air five games this month on ESPN3, the online streaming service. Wednesday's game between Dynamo Moscow and Ak Bars Kazan will be the first game televised.

Now in its third week, the lockout has forced many players to head overseas to play on month-to-month contracts. Others who are eligible to play at the lower levels opened training camp last week with American Hockey League affiliates. Still, there are several players who remain in North America, and continue to work out among themselves. On Tuesday in Minnesota, several members of the Wild got together for a skate.

"It is disappointing. The NHLPA is trying pretty hard to get something done. Every offer we make, we're trying to make it better and better every time and it just seems like they're getting stubborn and they want to stick to their offer," Wild forward Pierre-Marc Bouchard said. "So, we'll see what happens next."

Tomlin optimistic Harrison, Polamalu are ready

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Call it addition by omission.

As Steelers coach Mike Tomlin rattled off the status of injured players on Tuesday, three names were noticeably absent: Rashard Mendenhall, James Harrison and Troy Polamalu.

It wasn't an oversight by Tomlin. It's just that he doesn't think three of his team's most vital contributors are hurt anymore. Barring a setback, Tomlin expects all three to be in uniform on Sunday when the Steelers (1-2) host Philadelphia (3-1).

"I think that's a safe assessment," Tomlin said.

The unusually emphatic endorsement by the typically cautious Tomlin is perhaps the closest thing to a sure thing for the Steelers, who are looking to avoid their first ever 1-3 start since Tomlin took over in 2007. Under Tomlin the Steelers have started every season 6-2. They already have the "2" down this

season. Ripping off the next five to keep that streak alive will be daunting.

Having a couple of former Defensive Players of the Year back won't hurt. Harrison hasn't played at all this season while nursing a lingering left knee problem. Polamalu missed the last two games with a strained right calf while Mendenhall is at the very end of a lengthy rehab after tearing the ACL in his right knee on New Years Day.

"When we have those guys, we'll appreciate it," Tomlin said. "When we don't have them, we'll remain steadfast in our goals and our objectives."

Even if they haven't been met through the season's first month. While the offense has been remarkably consistent under new coordinator Todd Haley, the defense has looked toothless in the second half in losses to Denver and Oakland. The Broncos and Raiders had the ball a combined eight times in the second half against the

Steelers and ended up scoring on seven possessions.

Polamalu and Harrison's presence won't hurt, but there's no guarantee they will be a cure-all for a team in danger of losing serious ground to AFC North front-runners Baltimore and Cincinnati, both 3-1. Yet the Steelers have been one of the most resilient teams in the NFL under Tomlin. Pittsburgh is one of only three teams to avoid back-to-back losses since the beginning of the 2010 season.

"There's no panic in here," quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said. "It's still a marathon, but we need to get a win."

A couple of defensive stops might be enough to get the job done. Getting some pressure on the quarterback might help. The Steelers have just five sacks through three games, which would put them on pace for less than 30 over the course of a season. Youngsters Chris Carter and Jason Worilds have

done little in that department while filling in for Harrison, allowing teams to focus their attention on stopping LaMarr Woodley coming from the right edge.

Pittsburgh hardly made Oakland quarterback Carson Palmer break a sweat while throwing for three touchdowns in a 34-31 comeback victory on Sept. 23. Palmer led the Raiders to scores on all four of their second-half possessions, and he hit four straight passes on the drive that set up Sebastian Janikowski's game-winning field goal.

The defensive veterans rallied around longtime coordinator Dick LeBeau last week, brushing off criticism that the Steelers had become too predictable. Safety Ryan Clark pointed out opponents' familiarity with Pittsburgh's 3-4 scheme didn't matter because the Steelers simply outworked the guys across from them on the line of scrimmage. It's a point Polamalu reiterated on Monday

16 teams vie for Tan Holdings caging title

By **WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND**
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Tan Holdings’ 40th Anniversary Sports Festival-Open Basketball Tournament starts tonight and runs until Sunday night with 16 teams competing for the championship at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

The list includes the Century Insurance Old Aces, CTSI-Hoops, the TSL Foundation Princes, a Tribe’s Bar team, Barefoot Bar’s Kagman-B, RMS’s Rebelz, the Docomo Pacific Cosmos, D&Q International Distributors, Chamber Bar, Kanoa Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa’s Ol’Aces, a Koblerville crew rep-

resenting Century Hotel, Nami Bar’s Girl Power, Saipan Tribune, a POI Aviation-Agape group, and Isla Cafe.

The competition starts at 5:30pm and four matches in Pool 1 will be played in the opening day. Pool 2’s opening round takes place tomorrow, also beginning at 5:30pm with another set of four games to be played in 45-minute increments. Inter-pool play resumes Saturday morning, from 9:30am until roughly 5pm with a scheduled break from 12:30pm to 2pm.

Then the overall champion will be crowned after Sunday’s all-day affair also scheduled from 9:30am through 5pm with a midday break in between.

Up for grabs in the tournament are \$400 worth of sports equipment for the winners, \$300 to the runner-up, \$200 to

third, and \$100 to fourth place.

Games will be played under FIBA rules with two 15-minute halves, however the first team to break 40 points with at least a two-point lead will automatically be declared the winner.

Teams will be randomly divided into four pools and play six games where the Top 2 teams of each pool will advance to the single elimination bracket-style playoffs; the qualifying groups will then randomly receive their playoff seats. Notably, the finals will be played in two 20-minute halves and the “first to 40” rule will not be implemented.

Unified Basketball Association is organizing the tournament and for more information, contact UBA’s James Lee at 483-0290 or email unifiedbasketballassociation@gmail.com.

Chamber of Commerce golf tourney Oct. 27

The 5th Annual Saipan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) Golf Tournament will be held on Oct. 27 at the Coral Ocean Point Resort Golf Course.

The Saturday single round, two-man scramble format tournament will begin at 7am, with players requested to register beginning at 6am. Player registration and entry fees are at the special price of \$99.95. The \$99.95 includes greens fees and the awards banquet. Banquet guests are welcome for \$30.

“The Chamber of Commerce asks its members to support other Chamber companies. COP is a member of the chamber, so we support COP, and we’re going to hold our tournament there for the 2nd year in a row. We expect a larger turnout this year, as we intend to set a record for players walking away with prizes,” chamber president Douglas Brennan said during SCC’s October general membership meeting.

The 2-man team prizes include three separate categories: men’s low gross, men’s low net (double peoria) and wom-

en’s low net (double peoria). First placer in each category gets \$600, second place wins \$300 and third place takes \$200.

Hole-in-one prizes include \$10,000 (from Takagi & Associates and AON Insurance) on the 161-yard hole No. 3, \$25,000 (Bank of Hawaii) on the 194-yard hole No. 12, and a 2013 Hyundai Elantra (Triple J Motors) on the 165-yard hole No. 13. Closest to the pin winner on the 130-yard hole No. 7 will get a round trip ticket to Japan (Delta Air Lines) and a special prize donated by DataDot.

To date, the following companies have signed up to sponsor holes; ASC Trust, DataDot, Delta Air Lines, DFS Galleria, Saipan Shipping Company, TakeCare Insurance, United Air Lines, Xerox Corporation, MCV, Pacific Islands Club, and Tan Holdings.

Entry forms are available at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office in the Family Building in Garapan, and at COP. **(PR)**

HI-FIVE

From Page 24

The incident started on the Archers’ court with Lizama making a spin move against Lee from the right baseline. Lizama was called for a hooking foul and he and Lee exchanged heated words after the referees broke the play. The verbal tussle continued at Hi-Five’s front court and just when the referees were preparing to resume the game, Lizama caught Lee off guard with a headbutt. Lee fell on the floor and players from both camps soon joined the commotion and prevented further altercation. Lee got up with blood oozing

from his nose and he later sustained a cut near his nasal bone.

Lizama was disqualified for the headbutt incident and was ordered to leave the court. Hi-Five’s Alex Standish was also ejected from the game for leaving the bench and going inside the court. He later argued he was just breaking up the fight, but still left the match after going to the Archers’ bench and shaking hands with their foes.

Police officers also arrived at the gym and talked to the involved parties.

Hi-Five and the Archers went on to play the remaining 56 seconds of the third quarter and the former kept the driver’s seat at the end of that canto, 45-35.

With one of their offensive threat

out, the Archers went on to drop their fourth straight game.

Hi-Five controlled the match early when it led, 23-9, behind the 8 points of Dan Barcinas. Then the one-sided game became interesting and more physical in the second quarter when the Archers started a comeback, while Hi-Five tried to hang on to its double-digit lead. There were a lot of second motions, pushing, and complains on calls and non-calls alike, making the game ripe for the third-quarter squabble.

Meanwhile, league commissioner Ed Manalili, in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, said he is still waiting for the referees report about the incident and once he gets it,

he will call on a committee meeting to decide on the matter.

Armatech 104, Servitek 66

In the second game, Armarech finally broke into the win column after five futile tries, following its demolition of Servitek (0-6).

Six Armatech players scored in double figures with Elmer Esdreton leading the way with his 18 points. Martin Moreno chipped in 14, Jawn Joyner added 13, Jerome Ano and Ferdie Tobias had 12, and Jared Ano contributed 10.

Moreno and Esdreton teamed for 18 points in the opening period, lifting Armatech to a 26-15 lead. Island Servitek never recovered from thereon.

First Game

Hi-Five 66 – Mendiola 18, Barcinas 14, Iguel 8, Standish 7, Peters 3, Quitugua 2.

Archers 49 – Bernardo 16, Muleta 9, Lizama 8, Mendoza 4, David 3.

Scoring by quarters: 23-9, 31-23, 45-35, 66-49.

Second Game

Armatech 104 – Esdreton 18, Moreno 14, Joyner 13, Tobias 12, Je. Ano 12, Ja. Ano 10, Sacramento 9, Trajano 6, Guiab 4.

Servitek 66 – Detera 21, Kenty 14, Jose 4, Rio 6, Brennan 6, Esconde 2, Alano 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-15, 51-27, 78-48, 104-66.

ROLLERS

From Page 24

an even 2-2 slate.

Hi-5 also holds a 2-2 card, following a 51-46 win over LD Prime (1-3) in last Tuesday’s match.

The Rollers 2 was looking to make it five in a row yesterday against Kagman (0-2), while today’s game will have the Oleai Ol’Aces (1-2) versus LD Prime at 5:30pm. Completing the U20 field are the second-ranked Proa (3-1), the Chalan Kanoa Saints (1-1) and RBC’s Agape Torchbearers (0-4).

In last Monday’s game, the Rollers 1’s Erik Dela Rosa bulldozed his way

to a baker’s dozen in the opening period for their early 21-15 lead.

The Rollers 1 tried to spread the ball around, but its pesky little siblings weaseled back to a stalemate at the break, 33-all. Factor, JP Iglecias, and Dixon Kwon teamed up for Rollers 2’s front-line, while CJ Morales pulled the strings at the point.

The formula continued to work through the third quarter as the Rollers 2 maintained control, 50-45. Factor scored eight points and he drew help from Iglecias’ triple and Morales’ four points.

Perhaps waiting to take it in the end, nobody stepped up for the Rollers 1 and the Rollers 2 was happy to seize

the moment, as Factor delivered seven big points in the clutch for the win.

Factor’s total output is just a basket shy of the combined points of Rollers 1’s top scoring duo—Dela Rosa (17) and Ralph Francisco (12)

In last Tuesday’s tiff, Lester Lapuz paced LD Prime in the first quarter with his six points and helped his team take a 12-6 favor.

However, HI-5 roared back with a 20-point burst in the second period to swipe the lead at halftime, 26-22. Frank Macahito rung in a three-ball for five points and six others chipped in on the surge.

Hi-5 then maintained control through a highly defensive third frame, 35-30,

while Don Hockett made a couple of baskets and Macahito drained another trey.

The opposing offenses opened up in the fourth quarter, but Hi-5 managed to match its rival basket for basket as time winded down.

Carl Aldan and Lawrence Rolon scrambled for 10 markers in LD Prime’s last stand, but ran out of time as Hi-5 point man Rey Cabaltica did a good job running the point in the late minutes.

Feria led Hi-5 in the final canto with seven points, including the final three that helped seal the deal, and he and Macahito teamed up for 23 points. Rolon carried LD Prime with 16 and received 10 from Lapuz.

TUESDAY

Hi-5 51 – Feria 13, Macahito 10, Hockett 8, Villanueva 7, Hofschneider 6, Cabaltica 3, Sapo 2, M. Aldan 2.

LD Prime 46 – Rollon 16, Lapuz 10, Quemado 5, Ngeskebei 4, C Aldan 4, Gunnacho 3, Castro 2, Espinosa 2.

Scoring by quarters: 6-12, 26-22, 35-30, 51-46.

MONDAY

Rollers 2 59 – Factor 27, Iglecias 10, Kwon 8, Morales 8, Espinosa 6.

Rollers 1 55 – Dela Rosa 17, Francisco 12, Suarez 8, Deleon Guerrero 6, Lansang 6, Darag 4, Caro 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-21, 33-33, 50-45, 59-55.

TAN

From Page 24

The game was over right in the first half, as MP United-2 (1-1-0) piled up seven goals. Dakota Hall made three of them, Jehn Joyner had a pair and Daniel Lim and Brian Lee had one each. Joyner then got his third goal in the 53rd minute, while Hall and Lee also added one apiece in the second half. Clyde Ebilane scored the last goal for

MP United-2.

Sean Perez was the lone Matansa (0-0-2) player to light up the scoreboard, nailing a goal in the 49th minute.

BOYS U15 Shirley’s FC 2, Matansa 2

The lone boys U15 division game played last Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field resulted in a draw.

Ryu Tanzawa broke the ice for Matansa (1-1-0) with his goal in the 7th minute, however Shirley’s Ed-

ward Cordero equalized the game three minutes later. Shirley’s (0-1-2) then took the lead off Edwin Kim’s goal in the 24th minute, but the first half ended in a deadlock after Sean Perez also made it to the scoreboard in 36th minute.

The game remained tied in the second half, as both teams hung tough on defense.

The other tiff in the boys U15 division featuring Paire and Tan Holdings was rescheduled.

GIRLS U15 Paire 1, Tan Holdings 0

Paire broke into the win column after dropping its first two games, following a shutout victory over Tan Holdings at the Hopwood pitch.

Mikaela Duenas scored the winning goal for Paire in the second half and moved up her team from the last place to the No. 4 spot in the five-team field. Tan Holdings is still at the bottom of the team standings with its 0-0-2 slate.

Matansa 2, Shirley’s 1

Matansa is at the top of the field, as it defeated Shirley’s in the second game.

Matansa now has a 2-0-0 card against Shirley’s (1-1-1). MP United (1-1-0) drew a bye in Week 3 of the league.

Shirley’s boosted its chances for its second win when Marielle Gariguez connected on a goal in the second half. However, Matansa recovered in the second half after getting one goal from Almina Deleon Guerrero and another one off Shirley’s error.

SWIMMING

From Page 24

“The meet was a great opportunity for new club swimmers to test themselves in competition and current swimmers to re-establish their times for the season’s goals,” said SSC president Robert Torres in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Richard and Nieves Villagomez and the DeCourtneys, and Taiyo Akimaru participated in their first competition. Nieves raced in the 25m freestyle

(timed in at less than a minute), while Richard joined the 50m backstroke (1:10.67) and 50m freestyle (1:00.81) events. Ashley raced in the 50m breaststroke (1:18.94) and 50m freestyle (59.78), while Robert was entered in the 25m backstroke, and Taiyo logged 1:00.11 in the 50m backstroke

The rest of SSC’s bets in last weekend meets are old members and aimed for personal best times.

“Kento Akimaru is ready to get down to work and clocked in at 39:65 in the 50m backstroke and 1:33:00 in the

100m breaststroke. Victoria Chentsova continued her preparation for the World Championships (short course) in Istanbul, Turkey in December with her strong work in the endurance event (800m freestyle/10:35:06). Swimming sisters Conatsu and Coume Kaga continued their technical development with the 100-meter breaststroke event,” Torres said.

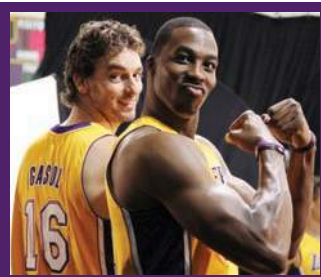
“Not to be outdone were brothers Ichiro and Taka Borja and Michael and Michail Villagomez, who responded to the challenge of their coaches to move up in

level with their events in the 50m freestyle event. Sam Ryu and Ki Chang Jeong also shook off the summer fun and got down to business in the 50m backstroke event. Rinto Takahashi and RJ Pierce worked on their form and endurance with the 100m breaststroke, serving notice that they are working on their all-around plan. Lennosuke Suzuki continues his aggressive swimming style, clocking in at 43:84 (50m backstroke) and trying to catch the older and experienced swimmers,” the SSC head added.

To cap SSC’s season-opener,

coaches Mike Villagomez and Jacoby Winkfield went head-to-head in the 50m freestyle.

“The two SSC alumni took the blocks and exploded into the water, perhaps with more explosion, and barreled down the lanes in their 50-meter swim. At the end of the lung-busting swim, the consensus was that it was close and only appropriate for bragging rights and to inspire the kids,” Torres said. “SSC congratulates all the swimmers for their participation and for doing very well in the first meet.”



Howard participates in Lakers' first practice

22

Saipan Tribune Sports

Cardinals claim last postseason berth

21



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

24 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2012

Hi-Five wins 'brawl' against Archers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hi-Five kept its streak in the 2012 Emon Lodge 179 Basketball League-Docomo Brotherhood Cup after prevailing in a fight-marred match against the Archers, 66-49, at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Hi-Five gained its fourth victory in a row after losing its debut, while the Archers dropped to a dismal 0-4 slate.



to cool off the heated game which reached its boiling point in the closing seconds of the third quarter, as Hi-Five's James Lee and

The Archers-Hi-Five tiff was played on a cold Tuesday night, but the chilly weather failed

the Archers' Jack Lizama got into each other's nerves.

See HI-FIVE on Page 23

Rollers 2 still clean in Rotary caging



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Rollers 2 forward Prince Factor goes right through the double-team defense of Rollers 1 during their U20 division game in the Rotary caging last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



The Rollers 2 continued its run in the 2012 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League as it posted an im-

pressive 59-55 victory over sister team Rollers 1 during their U20 division game last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Prince Factor exploded for 27 points to give Rollers 2 its fourth win in as many games, while the Rollers 1 dropped to

See ROLLERS on Page 23

Hi-Five's Peter Mendiola, left, collides with the Archers' Kae Bernardo during the second quarter of their game in the Emon Lodge caging last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Tan Holdings hands Paire first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Tanapon Unsa scored a hat-trick to lift Tan

Holdings to a 3-1 win over erstwhile leader Paire in the boys U18 division game in the 2012 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Unsa put Tan Holdings in the board early with his goal in the 4th minute and then 10 minutes before the first half ended, he



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tan Holdings FC's Tanapon Unsa, left, is chased by Paire defenders during the rain-soaked first half of their boys U18 game in the NMIFA fall league last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

got his second goal to stretch the team's lead. The Tan Holdings striker made it three in a row when he found the back of the net anew in the 60th minute.

Paire then avoided a shutout loss when Zhi Peng Lin scored five minutes before the final buzzer sounded.

With the victory, Tan Holdings now has a 2-1-0 win-draw-loss record and grabbed the top spot from Paire (2-0-1).

MP United-2 11, Matansa 1

MP United-2 won the other U18 match, as it clobbered Matansa FC.

See TAN on Page 23

Swimming siblings get job done for SSC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Northern Marianas Swimming Federation-

Saipan Swim Club's season debut was a family affair, as siblings competed in the

led meet last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Suiting up for SSC in the first tournament of the 2012-2013 season were Taiyo and Kento Akimaru, Michael and Michail Villagomez, Richard and Nieves Villagomez, Conatsu and Coume Kaga, Ichiro and Taka Borja, and Ashley and Robert

DeCourtney. Also joining the weekend race were Victoria Chentsova, Sam Ryu, Ki Chang Jeoung, Rinto Takahashi, RJ Pierce, and Lennosuke Suzuki.

See SWIMMING on Page 23

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Swim Club's Michael Villagomez gasps for air during the 100m freestyle swim in the first meet of the season last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

